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THE WEEK.

MONDAY, 5TH MAY.

WE HAVE received the following letter regarding the administration of justice in Burdwan under Dr. Field:

The Burdwan public cannot let the opportunity, of Dr. Field's leaving the Station for Calcutta to draft the Rent Bill pass, without placing on record their high appreciation of the many rare qualities possessed by this eminent gentleman who held the responsible office of District and Sessions Judge for upwards of 2½ years. He presided over the administration of Law and Justice in a way to deserve the respect of all classes of the people in this district. He attempted to put down corruption and has no doubt been comparatively successful. He has re-arranged the records of his office which were in a shameful state of disorder under Judges who had gone before him, and these records are coeval with British Rule in India: He organised a copyists' department which he happily called a training school for young men desirous of entering the service of Government. Nearly 30 persons find employment in this Department. Dr. Field always treated the Bar with consideration; and complimented those who merited an acknowledgment for ability, skill and intelligence. The Public felt his influence for good and the executive were in awe of his high sense of justice; you were pleased to notice the great legal learning he displayed in his work on the Law of Evidence as administered in British India; it would be presumptuous for any body to deny his profound scholarship, great erudition and excellent judgment. The Government as well as the country are indebted to this eminent lawyer for the great assistance he has rendered to the cause of legislation in India. The question then suggests itself why such a man has not yet been honored with a seat on the bench of the High Court? Are we to understand that because Dr. Field possesses extraordinary qualities such as many of his brethern in the service do not possess, (a fact the other day indirectly acknowledged by the Government of Bengal in its correspondence with the Government of India on the Rent Law Commission) he is not to go to the High Court? Are we to suppose that Dr. Field has no interest in high quarters? That cannot be, for his merits have often been acknowledged by men like Sir F. Stephens, Sir, A. Hobhouse; and the [illegible] W. Stokes. Where then is the hitch? The Government of India on whom rests the blame for not rewarding a most valued servant of the crown, should that it is high time to have Dr. Field in the High Court, or see in the Legislative Council for which he is so eminently fitted.

Burdwan loses the best Judge that ever came here; we should be glad to see him rise in the service. As a man Dr. Field is sincere, open to conviction, and full of wit and humour.

WE HAVE received the following curious letter from Baharee in the district of Bhagulpore:

In a village called Papoorea in the District of Beerbhom which is about 8 miles distant from Bhulpore Station, a Mehomedan lad of 3 years old is showing wonders to the people. Men suffering from various diseases are coming from distant places to see him and take medicines from him. The daily gathering of the people is from two to three thousand. He touches the people with a stick, gives some roots of plants and leaves of trees for medicine and bids them bathe in a pond near his abode. It is a matter of wonderment that a lad of three years only is not afraid to come out before so many people when all are staring at him.

A CORRESPONDENT of the *Pioneer* at Naini Tal writes:

An important question affecting the rights of Afghans in British India was recently raised in Madras. One Abdul Rahaman, an Afghan trader in India, instituted a suit in the Cuddapah Court for the recovery of Rs. 17,600. The District Judge rejected the plaint on the ground that the plaintiff was an enemy of the British Government. The matter was carried to the High Court on appeal; and the case was heard by Mr. Justice Kernan and Mr. Justice Muthuswami Iyer. Their Lordships held that as Her Majesty the Empress had announced in her proclamation that she was at war with Amir Shere Ali only and not with Afghan people, the plaintiff had a perfect right to the protection of the Indian Courts. The observant visitor cannot fail to be struck, as he strolls along the Mall or looks in the Assembly Rooms, by the great preponderance of the female element here and the paucity of the male. Everywhere ladies are to be seen; jhampans jostle each other in abundance, but the men are few and far between. In this land of exile and misery, we are wont ordinarily to lament the absence of this gentler sex, but here the case is exactly reversed.

So Naini Tal has become a nunnery. Are not there gallant spirits in this wide continent, who will come to the rescue of the pining Angelinas?

THE POLICE in Bombay. We extract the following from the *Times of India*:

At the beginning of the year some bags of grain were stolen from the G. I. P. Railway, from the Budlapore and Narel stations. The matter was placed in the hands of the Railway Police, and the subordinates entrusted with the duty proceeded to collect such evidence as best suited their purpose. On the 5th February the three constables who have just been condemned went to the railway gate-house at Budlapore. They were not in uniform at the time. At the gate-house they saw a plate-layer, one Aunia Gopia, who had been in the Company's service for seven years and had borne a good character all through. They told him to put down his breakfast and to come to them. The chief constable at once, by way of intimidation, struck him on the chest with the butt-end of a gun, the others kicked and beat him. They then ordered him into the gate-house. Here they tied his hands with his *dhotur*, and asking repeatedly who committed the theft, 'threw him down and thrashed him unmercifully with sticks and the butt-end of the gun.' According to his evidence,—"They kept on saying to me 'just tell who committed the theft.' I said 'I did not commit any theft. *Don't beat a poor man.* I am dying.'" And as he still declared he knew nothing of the matter, they carried him off towards Narel, and when they came to the shelter of a bridge, they began to thrash him again, until the poor wretch became unconscious. Fortunately, the assault was witnessed by the gate-keeper, the mucoadum, and another native and one of these ran for Mr. Legge, the permanent way inspector. Mr. Legge found Annia lying senseless on the ground, with the three policemen round him. They not only declined to give their names, but even tried to prevent him removing the senseless body. Mr. Legge however, who behaved as any humane Englishman would do, had him carried on a lorry to the Lanowlee hospital, and when the police saw that he was in earnest, they tried to bribe one of his attendants to silence by the offer of "Rs. 20 some liquor, and a sheep." At the hospital Annia was examined by the railway surgeon Dr. Gairdner. One of his limbs was broken; he had great difficulty in breathing, and was spitting bloody mucus. Altogether he was in such a bad plight that Dr. Gairdner telegraphed to the magistrate to have his deposition taken at once. The deposition was taken by Dr. Fraser, and, considering the circumstance under which it was made, fully bears out all the subsequent evidence. In a few days after this, an enquiry was ordered into the case and was entrusted to Mr. Austin, one of the police inspectors who disputed all the depositions made by all the witnesses and behaved in a very arbitrary manner. He was afterwards the chief witness for the defence. "This witness," says Mr. Coghlan in his judgment, "spoke principally of an examination which he had made, not as a police officer acting under the Criminal Procedure Code, but departmentally, as he describes it, for the information of his superintendent, of witnesses Gopala, Gotia and Antoba, at the Budlapore station. The witness has not an accurate memory of what these persons said [illegible] and has been allowed to refresh his memory from pencil notes made at the time. These notes were taken a month after the date of the alleged offence, and nearly a month after Annia's deposition in hospital before the second-class magistrate of Poona. It would be impossible to rank these crude notes, unofficially made by Inspector Austin, with the judicially taken depositions of Annia at the hospital and before Dr. Frazer, the committing magistrate, and in this court. And it also appears that he had been permitted to cross-examine the witnesses before the magistrate, and that he had been in communication with the pleader for the accused. The next witness for the defence was Chief Constable Chand Khar, who was also in charge of the case from the first, and Mr. Coghlan's opinion of his evidence is sufficiently clear in the judgment:—"As I have endorsed at the foot of my note of his deposition, this witness gave evidence in an unsatisfactory manner, fencing with questions and when asked questions apparently distasteful to him, assuming an air of stolidity and simplicity quite unnatural in a chief constable of police.

But the Police throughout India are more or less of the same pattern.

TUESDAY, 6TH MAY.

THIS IS the way the License tax is being administered in the Punjab. A correspondent of the *Statesman* writes:

The popular discontent caused by the oppressive licence-tax continues. The first levy was haphazard and generally out of all proportion to the means of those assessed. But the Collector's hands were tied by Government, who confidentially ordered a certain sum to be collected in each province and district. Thus each District Collector had a fixed sum to raise in his district. He had no data to guide him in its incidence; and even if he had, he could not pay due regard to it. It thus happened that commercial men whose net income or profits did not exceed Rs. 2,000 a year, were summarily assessed at Rs. 4 and 500 each, and payment was promptly enforced by distraint. In many cases, the parties assessed were not even informed of the amount, and thus given no reasonable time to appeal or to arrange for its payment, and the first intimation which they had was the summary process of the serving of the warrant of distraint by the bailiff or some other subordinate myrmidon of the Revenue Department and Courts! Over-assessment, exaction, oppression, and extortion have been rife, and the door to extortion has been freely opened to the generally dishonest subordinate Officials, to whom indeed it has been a profitable field for feathering their nest. On the poorer classes, and especially those with uncertain income and livelihood, such as petty traders, pedlar, artisans, day-labourers, and the like, the tax presses most heavily and unequally. Considering the popular discontent and irritation caused, its continuance at least in its present shape and incidence is a dangerous political experiment, the wisdom of which may well be questioned.

No direct tax will answer in India.

THE COMMISSION to enquire into and report on the Furrackabad case is constituted as follows: President, Mr. Broadhurst, Judge of Benares; Members, Ainulabdin, Subordinate Judge of Shahjehanpore, and Munshi Madho Lall, Munsiff of Mirzapore. The Commission meets about the 15th May. The commission is not fairly constituted. There ought to have been at least one independent member in it. Is it too late to appoint a pleader or barrister to it?

A MAN named Whittenberry, who carried on business in this city ostensibly as a merchant, but in reality as a swindler, under various aliases such as Gilmore, Avit and Co., Baren, Middleton and Co., and lately Selby and Co., was tried lately on the charge of cheating, preferred against him by an up-country dealer in country cloths, in respect of 1,000 pieces of dossuttee cloth. He was convicted and sentenced to two years rigorous imprisonment, and fine of Rs. 500, in default of the fine to be further rigorously imprisoned for a period of six months. Rather cheaply let off.

DR. HUGH MILLER, who was for many years a medical practitioner in Bombay, and was well known for his interest in Missions, died not long since bequeathing £20,000 to the Free Church Mission in Bombay. The money is to be invested chiefly for the benefit of native Christians. Dr. Miller made his fortune by coffee plantation in Ceylon.

THE CALICUT CORRESPONDENT of the *Madras Standard* has the following:

"In a laterite quarry, about five miles north of Calicut, a strange discovery has been made. As the workmen were getting up laterite from the quarry, which is situated in a hill, they unexpectedly knocked down a small bar of raised earthwork which led to the discovery of a small cavern. They excavated further with the hope of finding hidden treasure and came upon a pillar nicely cut of a mass of laterite, and not far from it a bedsted also cut alike from the same substance. It had all the semblance of a wooden cot. These two articles were in one room, and on the right hand there was another small room. On examining this they found a fire place made up of three pieces of stones, raised in a triangular position, and adjacent thereto a large number of earthen pots and chatties was found heaped up. They were so brittle that a touch reduced them to powder. The authorities having heard about the discovery, examined the spot and intend taking steps to make further enquiries, and placed a tehsildar adigharry in charge of the place. A subterranean passage was probably made here before the Portuguese invasion of Calicut and Cochin by rich Malabarens as a place of refuge."

IMPERIAL BABIES, it seems are expensive infants to keep, to judge from the example of the little Grand Duke Michael Alexandrowitch, the youngest child of the Czarewitch, who at four months old has an allowance of £3,369, for his table, while his household consists of fifteen persons.

A FRENCH PAPER says that M. Loius Voission, ex-French officer, attached to the King of Burmah, has embarked at Rangoon by the last packet on a political and commercial mission to France. The Burmese Government wishes to counter-balance English influence in the far East by drawing closer to France, which as is well known, takes great interest in Indo-China.

WEDNESDAY, 7TH MAY.

THE ROYAL Geographical Society are taking energetic steps for organising a uniform system for the spelling of names of places throughout the globe.—A commencement has been made with the Indian names which the Government authorities are not yet decided about and a complete printed list of these has been drawn up and prescribed for use in the society's publications. The names in Major St. John's map of Persia, Major Wilson's Afghanistan, and Lieut. Stiffe's (I. N.) charts of the Persian Gulf and Mekran making up the whole of the Iranian peninsula, will then be tabulated and revised by a competent hand, in accordance with a system devised recently by Sir H. Rawlinson, under instructions from the India Office. The society then propose to turn their attention to African names, and frame lists on the principle of adopting the Jonesian vowels and K for hard C., except in names of European derivation. These steps are preliminary to a more universal set rules applicable to all parts of the Globe.

WHAT DRAINAGE has done in Italy. We read that by twenty-four years of labour, with an expenditure of about two millions sterling, Prince Torlonia has reclaimed 35,000 acres of the finest arable land, and has changed the face of a whole province, bringing health, industry, and prosperity, where fever and pauperism previously held undisputed sway.

SOME YOUNG men in Pesth have just discovered an entirely original way of helping their fellow-countrymen, or rather country-women. They have formed an association, each member of which has vowed that he will marry a Szegedin girl in the course of the next 12 months!

THE WOMEN of Illinois have presented a petition to the Legislature weighing fifty-five pounds avoirdupois, and signed by 110,000 ladies, asking for a right to vote upon the question of granting licenses to saloons to sell liquor. The ladies have of course no interest in the saloons.

THE CHIEF excitement in New York of late, says a writer, has centered round a walking match, wherein three men walked in six days, one 500 miles, one 475, and one 450, the winner getting £18,000 the second man £11,600, and the third £8,400 as the net profits on the exhibition.

A TRUSTWORTHY CONSTANTINOPLE correspondent of the *Christian Union* considers that the number of soldiers who perished in the late Russo-Turkish War cannot be less than a million. The Russians acknowledge a loss of over 300,000. The Roumanians, Servians, Montenegrins, and Austrians lost nearly 100,000, and the Turkish loss must have been over 600,000. He says, "The present condition of the Turkish army is such that if there is no improvement there will soon be very little left of it." Besides this sacrifice of a million of soldiers, there has been a still more woful sacrifice of at least another million of souls in the wholesale massacres and movements of population without a parallel in modern times.

THE PIONEER says :

The results of the outbreak of cholera at Hurdwar have been very serious. The latest reports from Kumaon are to the effect that out of 80,000 pilgrims who went from the hills to bathe, at the conjunction of the planets, in the sacred stream, about one fourth are missing. This may be an exaggeration ; but there can be no doubt that long ere this the bulk of the pilgrim who left Hurdwar from the 10th to the 12th *should* have returned to their homes. At Amset, they were warned off the high road usually traversed, and compelled (by the Bijnor police it may be presumed) to turn off the forest path—an unfrequented route through an inhospitable region. Until they regained the Kumaon and Garhwal road, they must have suffered great hardships ; for water is scarce and there are no convenient means of obtaining supplies. It is not as yet known what the mortality has been, but we are informed from a reliable source that in the course of three days no less than 200 dead bodies were found lying along the last six miles of road leading to Ramnagar. As the distance from Amset to Ramnagar is some 70 to 80 miles, the thought of what a search along the remaining miles may have—or could have—revealed is appalling. Wearied by the long march in these hot April days ; with cholera in their ranks ; and without proper means of obtaining the necessaries of life—to say nothing of medical treatment—the returning pilgrims must have died off like rotten sheep. No wonder Kumaon counts her missing hill men by thousands. Who is responsible for all this ?

Will no enquiry be made and will nobody be hung for this dreadful catastrophe ?

WE ARE sorry to record the death of Babu Obhoy Churn Mullick, late Deputy Collector. He was first employed as an assistant under Babu Gobind Chunder Dhur, the well known banian. He was subsequently appointed a Deputy Collector and distinguished himself greatly in the service.

THURSDAY, 8TH MAY.

THE MANCHESTER Chamber of Commerce have lately addressed the Secretary of State urging "the early abolition" of the Cotton Frauds Act. The Chamber represents that the recent provisions introduced into the Act render it "even more stringent and more objectionable to merchants than it was before. For instance, clause 25 practically frees the perpetrator of fraud under this Act, but renders the holder of adulterated cotton—and it might be at the twentieth hand—liable to prosecution and therefore to confiscation of the cotton and to fines." Yes, but is not the receiver of stolen goods equally liable with the thief ?

THE QUESTION of forming, protecting and improving reserves for the production of fuel, more particularly with regard to the requirements of Indian Railways, has recently been brought to the notice of the Secretary of State by the Government of India, who have expressed an opinion, in which the Secretary of State concurs, that measures must be taken to ensure a permanent and sufficient production of wood fuel in the vicinity of the several railway lines.

A LAW has lately been passed by the Legislature of Natal "to provide for the promotion of education among the children of the Indian Immigrant population" in that Colony.

IT IS stated that the Chinese Emissary of the Governor General of Szechuen who arrived recently at Mandalay *en route* to Calcutta and Nepal, and that through the physical difficulties of the road he had been compelled to abandon the Lhassa route. This emissary is an official of inferior rank, who, during the course of last summer was at the instance of the Chinese Ministers, granted a passport by Her Majesty's Charge D'affaires at Pekin for the purpose of proceeding through Nepal into India. He is understood to be charged with an official mission to Nepal.

FURTHER details regarding the disturbances in Badakshan and the overthrow of the Afghan authority in that province have been received. The Mir of Badakshan has organised a revolt and has disarmed, imprisoned or repelled the Afghan troops in the country. An envoy was supposed to be on his way to Chitral with Affghan prisoners. It is also reported that the Affghan Garrison of Fyzabad marched out with all their guns except one, and retreated to Balkh and that Baba Khan is completely established as Mir of Badakshan.

SMALL-POX is prevalent at Gilgit.

LETTERS from Cabul say that the chiefs of some of the tribes attended at Cabul and presented to the Ameer a piece of telegraph wire stolen from the British and professed readiness for holy war. They received an evasive answer from Yakub.

A CORRESPONDENT writing from Julpigori notices the great heart-burning and dissatisfaction created by a recent ruling of the Railway Department. Under this ruling railway employes on the receipt of a salary of Rs. 60 and upwards are entitled to 2nd class free passage, when travelling on the public service or on their own account under authority, and are entitled to take one servant free as a third class passenger, and those on salaries below Rs 60 will get only a 3rd class pass. In other words these employes stand on the footing of the servant of the higher grade employes. He suggests that to obviate all objections a separate carriage or compartment of a carriage may be reserved for menials or two 3rd class compartments reserved for railway employes. Under the old rules employes on Rs. 50 were allowed 2nd classs free passage.

WE EXTRACT the following from the letter of another correspondent from the same station :

Major Money the Deputy Commissioner has returned from furlough and his presence has infused a new vigour into the affairs of this place. Every thing looks brisk and the town itself has now a tidy appearance. The English School acquitted itself honorably at the last entrance examination and for the first time one of its students obtained a scholarship of Rs. 15 a month. At the Normal School examination 10 out of 12 candidates passed successfully. It is very gratifying that the majority of the European Officers of the place take interest in public movements. The charitable dispensary is almost wholly supported by them, though it is a matter of regret that it does not entertain the services of a good medical man like a passed graduate of the Medical College. One Chandi Babu has taken the role of a religious reformer and is travelling from place to place delivering sermons and lectures. We have here a native Judicial Officer who has struck out a number of suits from his file before the dates fixed for their hearing. This fact calls for an enquiry.

FRIDAY, 9TH MAY.

WE HAVE received the following letter from a correspondent :

When the *Bengalee* wrote its article on the Sub-Educational *Grades*, we thought your contemporary had been misled and had said things that were not true. But we have taken the trouble to ascertain the truth, and as far as our information goes every word your contemporary said was we are assured true.

The Director of Public Instruction has recently published a corrected list of the *Grades*. We expected the errors that had found place in the original list would be rectified. In fact we thought it was the errors pointed out by the *Bengalee* that had called for a republication of the original graded list. But we have been disappointed. The *new* and *corrected* list contains no correction of any of the *material* errors it originally contained, but is the same list in fact with a few changes of an immaterial character.

We know Mr. Croft read the number of the *Bengalee* that pointed out the errors. We are told he made enquires about them in his own office and was satisfied that there *were* errors. How comes it then that the *corrected* list he has thought fit to issue does not contain any correction of a material character ? Are we to suppose that being a young man, he is like most vain young men, unwilling to admit errors ? If so, Mr. Croft should for a moment realise to himself the high position he holds in the service, and the grave responsibility he incurs in leaving Government records uncorrected. Had he not issued a *corrected* list, (as he himself calls it) we should not at all have thought of the errors that had crept into the original list. We mean no disrespect to Mr. Croft personally. Indeed, we should be glad to know that we are in errors ourselves.

THE SIMLA session of the Vice-regal Council has commenced. The following telegram from the Press Commissioner gives an abstract of the proceedings of the first meeting :

In to-days Legislative Council Mr. Cockerell obtained leave to introduce a Bill to amend law relating to Civil Courts in Oudh. A Bill providing for the appointment in the Punjab of an additional financial Commissioner was brought forward by Mr. Stokes and passed through its various stages into law ; the rules for the conduct of business being suspended for the purpose, Mr. Stokes also obtained leave to introduce a Bill to provide for registration of trade marks and bill to provide for revision of proceedings in trials held under the Military Cantonment Act 1864 Section 20. He also presented select Committees 'report on Bill to amend the law relating to Coast right in Eastern part Bay of Bengal Mr. Colvin presented select Committees reports on the North Western Provinces Land Revenue Act 1873 amendment Bill and Oudh Land Revenue Act 1876 amendment Bill. Additions were made to the select Committees on the part of Rangoon Commissioner's Bill and the Pleaders' Moktears and Revenue Agents Act 1865 amendment Bill. The Council adjourned for a fortnight.

THE INTELLIGENCE of the confusion in Badakshan coupled with the news of the establishment of English influence in Cabul, has created a great stir among the petty tribes on the north-east frontier of Afghanistan. They are sending in proposals for British protection and support and making friendly overtures to British Officers at Gilgit and elsewhere. Hitherto these petty chiefs have remained independent of the Ameer of Cabul, although they naturally stand in great fear of his power. Some of them are closely allied to the Badakshan chiefs, and as they hold the passes through the Hindoo Kush to Budakshan their position might in some ways become important.—*Press Commissioner.*

THE MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS of Madras it appears have proved a great success. Three European and ten native gentlemen have been elected, most of whom it is said are intelligent, able and independent. Among these gentlemen are the four non-official members of the Legislative Council and some graduates. Great credit is due to the Chairman of the Corporation and the local press for the interest they created among the electors.

THE PLEADERS of the Calcutta Police Court presented a farewell address to Mr. Charles, the officiating Chief Magistrate, on his retirement from the Police Bench. They complimented him on his "pains-taking and persistent desire for the thorough investigation of every case brought before him and for his impartial and even-handed justice." Mr. Charles acknowledged the address in suitable terms.

SIR RICHARD TEMPLE has appointed a committee to report on the recent dacoities in Bombay.

MR. G. H. P. EVANS has resigned his seat as an additional member in the Vice-regal Council. The Advocate General is on leave and the officiating Advocate General has not yet been appointed his successor in the Vice-regal Council. Will Barristers be no more appointed to the Council ?

THE MOON-LIGHT FETE at the Zoo on Tuesday last was a grand success. There was a large gathering of ladies and gentlemen. Although the promised electric light was not brought into play the programme of amusements was otherwise fully carried out. The feed of the carnivora was an interesting sight. Much credit is due to the promoters of the fete for the excellent manner in which it passed off.

SIR HENRY ANDERSON is dead. He was a Bombay civilian and greatly distinguished himself in the Bombay Presidency. He was for some time the Bombay member in the Vice-regal Legislative Council and conducted himself with great ability and independence. He was one of the ablest civilian speakers it was our good fortune to hear. Indeed, in fluency of speech, cogency of argument, and ready retort, he was quite a match for Sir Henry Maine, who was then the legal member of the Vice-regal Council. He subsequently succeeded Mr. Hawkins as Judicial Secretary in the India Office. His death is mourned by a large circle of friends and admirers.

SATURDAY, 10TH MAY.

NEWS COMES from Bushire that the Shaikh of El. Bidaa Jassim Bin Mahomed Bin Thani having quarrelled with the Bin-Kuwarah and other families of El Katr, has retired to a distance of some 30 miles inland, and with the assistance or countenance of the commander of the Turkish Gunboat *Iskendria* and the Turkish officials at El. Bidaa, Sheikh Mahomed Bin Saeed of the Bin Kuwarah tribe, and Seiz Bin Mohawna al Moseillem, are in authority at El. Bidaa at present. The *Iskendria* brought four prisoners from El. Bidaa to El. Katif, persons who were obnoxious to the new regime. The Motesserif (Governor) of El. Hassa, Mahommed Saeed Pasha, has arrived at El. Kateef from El. Hassai under instructions from the Walli of Basrah, who had enjoined him to restore order on the coast. The Motesserif travelled by land from Ojair to El-Katif, passing through Zahran. It is understood that orders have been issued to construct a water tower at Aboo-Zahmood, a place midway between Ojair and Katif, and to station a guard of Turkish soldiers there. Mahammed Saeed Pasha had expressed his intention of remaining at Katif for the *Iskendria*, when he proposed visiting several places on the coast.—*Press Commissioner.*

THERE were 233 deaths in Calcutta during the week ending 3rd May, of which 42 were from cholera, 31 from small-pox, 69 from fever, 18 from bowel complaints, 6 from accidents, and the rest from other causes. The deaths among non-Asiatics and mixed races were 9.

THE RUSSIAN TRADE SOCIETY, it is stated, is taking up the schemes for navigating the Oxus and making Central Asian Railways. The Society is to send an expedition this summer, with which are to go several officers of the Russian general staff.

THREE SIAMESE noblemen, with a large suite, are going to England to offer a Siamese order of nobility to Her Majesty the Queen and Empress. This is in return, it is supposed, for the Grand Cross of the St. Michael and St. George lately conferred by the Queen on His Majesty of Siam. Meanwhile the mission sent by the Indian Government to Siam has been so far quite successful, and the relations between England and Siam are described as cordial.

A CAIRO TELEGRAM to the *Times*, dated April 11th states that "Mr. Gerald Fitzgerald, Controller-General of Revenue and Expenditure, and Mr. Auckland Colvin, Director of the Land Survey and of Revenue in the Provinces, have tendered their resignations, declaring that the new order of things created by the Khedive's recent action offers no guarantee for the proper discharge of the duties of their posts." The Khedive, the *Pioneer* believes, was extremely reluctant to lose Mr. Colvin's services, and pressed him to withdraw the resignation; but this, of course, after the European ministers had been dismissed, was out of the

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question. Will Major Baring and Mr. Alonzo Money continue in the service of the Khedive ?

WE THANK the Government of India for a copy of the Telegraph Guide, Parts I. and II. It is corrected up to the 1st April 1879. No business men should be without a copy of this useful publication.

BABU JOGENDRANATH BHUTTACHARJEA M.A. B.L, Legal Member of His Highness the Maharaja of Burdwan, has published a useful work in Bengali, entitled Zemindari and Mahajani Accounts. We have had time only to glance at the book, which seems to be a very useful guide for learners of the system of accounts which it professes to teach. It may fitly be introduced into our vernacular schools.

BABU KALLYDAS CHATTERJEE, Vakil, Judge's Court, Hooghly, has brought out an edition of the new Stamp Act, with notes and a copious index. The notes are founded on the rulings of the Privy Council, and the several High Courts in India, Notifications and rules of Government, and circular orders of the Board of Revenue, and the Calcutta High Court, Tables of Stamp Duties under repealed Bengal, Madras, and Bombay Regulations and Acts, and a comparative table of sections of the old and new Acts are appended. Thus the compiler has spared no pains to make the book acceptable and useful to the public. We hope he will be rewarded with its generous patronage.

WE HAVE to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of the undermentioned publications and periodicals :

1. Accounts relating to Trade and Navigation of British India for March 79 with a comparative statement for two years. 2. Indian Telegraph Guide, Parts I and II. 3. Proceedings of the Public Meeting on the Civil Service Question held at the Town Hall of Calcutta. 4. An Analysis of the Agni Purana By Rajendralala Mitra, L. L. D. C. I. E. 5. Second Annual Report of the Indian Association for 1877-78. 6. Proceedings of the Asiatic Society of Bengal for March, 1879. 7. The Stamp Act of 1879 with notes. By Cally Dass Chatterjee, vakeel, Judge's Court, Hooghly. 8. Messrs. Dickenson and Co's monthly price list of printing paper, cards, presses, types &c , for May, 1879. 9. The *Liberal*, a London monthly for March, 1879. 10. Zemindari and Mahajuni Accounts. By Jogendranath Bhuttacharjea, M. A. B. L. 11. The Koran, from the original Arabic, in Bengali No. 2. By Rajendra Nath Dutt 12. Select English Words, Phrases and Proverbs &c. Habart Press, Madras. 13. Report of the Madras Famine Relief Committee for 1877-79.

THERE was some rain in the interior during the week ending 3rd May. In the Burdwan Division it was confined to Jehanabad, Beerbhoom and Hooghly. In the Presidency Division there was rain in all the districts except 24-Pergunnahs. In the Rajshaye and Cooch Behar Division it was general, the district towns of Dinagepore and Bograh being blessed with the heaviest showers. In the Dacca Division, except one shower in Backergunge there was more or less rain in all the districts especially at the head-quarters stations. In the Patna and Bhaugulpore Divisions there was no rain except slight showers at Mozufferpore, Seetamurhee, Purneah and Maldah. In the Orissa Division there was some rain in the district of Balasore. The rain-fall has not however been sufficient any-where ; there is a cry for water every-where. Not a drop has fallen in Calcutta.

WE HAVE received the following news from Ranchee, dated the 8th instant :

Prices of food-grains now stationary, will increase if rain does not fall immediately. A two anna crop is all that we can expect in this part of the sub-division. Now and then a thin cloud appears and disappears : otherwise there is is no sign of rain. The mangoe trees are profusely laden with fruits. I hope they will not drop off or dry up for want of rain. The native quarter is still infected by small-pox, fortunately of not a virulent type.

Her Majesty's Indian Privy Council has dismissed the case of the Maharaja of Palkote with costs. So Maharaja Udai Nath Shahi's claim is upheld.

PRICES are rising to fabulous sums. On the occasion of weddings this week first class *sandesh*, which ordinarily sells at Rs. 40 a maund sold at at from Rs. 90 to Rs. 120 a maund, and milk, which ordinarily sells at about Rs. 5 a maund, sold at Rs. 20 ditto. No wonder that the marriage expenses of the Hindus are becoming inordinately heavy.

LAST WEEK we enquired whether the Port Commissioners put up any signals to warn off people from places where the dredger has been at work. Mr. Bruce has kindly forwarded to us the following report of the Superintendent of the River Police upon our query :

Constables were placed for once a fortnight at the Ghats to warn people both by day and by night that the Dredger had been at work. Since October 1878 the Engineer of the Dredger gives me information whenever excavations are made in front of *Bathing Ghaut*, and the precaution of posting constables adopted.

It will be seen from the above that the Port Commissioners are not wanting in their duty. If the public note remissness anywhere, we hope they will bring it to the notice of Mr. Bruce, the Vice-Chairman of the Commissioners.

WE TAKE from the morning papers the following telegrams of the week :

London, May 5th.—In the House of Lords, Lord Salisbury said that he believed all the Powers had accepted the proposal of the French Foreign Minister for mediation, between Greece and Turkey. In the House of Commons Sir S. Northcote' replying to a question, said Government was most desirous for early pacification in Zulu and instructions have been sent to Sir Bartle Frere to abstain from a policy of annexation while at the same time protecting the colonies from danger. Issac But, the Home Ruler, is dead.

May 6th.—In the House of Lord Lord Salisbury replying to a question said the British Government accepts the Russian interpretation of the Berlin Treaty as regards the evacuation of Bulgaria and Roumelia, that it should commence on the 3rd May and end on the 3rd August. Autograph letters from the Czar to the Sultan, notifies that the evacuation has commenced and urges cultivation of friendly relations.

May 6th.—Advices from Cape Town dated the 22nd April, state that preparatory moments for the British advance had commenced. The 21st, 58th, and 94th Regiments with the 17th Lancers and a Dragoon Regiment had marched Dornberg under Colonel Newdigate. Crealock commands the lower Tugela column. The actual advance will be made in a fortnight's time. The House of Lords has thrown out on second reading the Bill for legalising marriage with a deceased wife's sister. The Prince of Wales gave his support to the petition presented in favour of the Bill. Sir S. Northcote replying to a question, said the Indian Budget would be presented to the House on the 22nd May. Mr. Stanhope would move the Indian Loan Bill. Consols 98⅜.

May 6th.—The bill of the Secretary of State for India relating to Public Works expenditure for the current financial year has been printed. It empowers every company to sell or lease the whole or part of railways or telegraphs to the Secretary of State for India in Council, or any other persons. Every such agreement will require the sanction of the Secretary in Council, and also of a majority of a meeting of shareholders. The bill authorises the Secretary in Council to agree with any company to cancel or modify any existing agreement or guarantee.

May 3rd.—The Board of Trade's returns of exports for the last month continue unfavourable. The Under-Secretary of State for War, replying to a question in the House of Commons, said a telegram had been received from Lord Chelmsford, asking for three more battalions, but that Government awaited further details before taking any steps in the matter. The Hon'ble Mr Stanhope, replying to a question said the Government gave its assent to the remission of the import duties by a confidential despatch from (to ?) the Viceroy.

May 9th.—In the Commons, Mr Dillivyn, member for Swansea, gave notice of a motion declaring that the direct interference of the Sovereign in India, and in the foreign policy of the Government was not in accordance with constitutional usages. Mr Fawcett gave notice of an amendment that while the House was resolved to main its privileges, it had not been shown that the sovereign had acted without advice or was responsible for Her Ministers Government accepted the amendment, and the debate was fixed for May 13th.

INDIAN ASSOCIATION FOR THE CULTIVATION OF SCIENCE.

(210, Bow-Bazar Street.)

LECTURE by Dr. Mahendra Lal Sircar, on Thursday, the 15th Instant at 7½ P. M.

Subject : Action of the Voltaic Current upon the Magnet.

LECTURE by Babu Tara Prasanna Roy on Saturday the 17th Instant next, at 4 P. M.

Subject : Bromine.

The Hindoo Patriot

MONDAY, MAY 12, 1879.

FINANCE WITH HONOR!

WE thank our contemporary of the *Indian Daily News* for putting these words into our mouth. The phrase aptly describes the ambition of the present Finance Minister of India, but its hollowness is exhibited in every measure he has undertaken. Under his advice the Government of India has issued another retrenchment circular, the gist of which is that the State being almost on the verge of bankruptcy, economy must be effected wherever practicable. This is not the first time this tune has been played, but *cui bono* ? Since Sir John Strachey's access to the exchequer the retrenchment circular has become as constant a quantity as the annual budget, and yet neither reduction of expenditure to any appreciable extent has been effected, nor increase of taxation prevented. Lord Northbrook left the country in 1876 without raising one pice by way of additional taxation ; on the contrary, His Lordship remitted a large amount of taxation. His minister Sir William Muir who departed about a year after did the same. Peace then reigned through the length and breadth of the land, commerce was active, the country prosperous, and the people contented. A little more than two years have elapsed since Sir John Strachey has taken charge of the Treasury, and what a change has come over the spirit of our dream ! The Empire is involved in a formidable and expensive war ; the country has been visited with the direst famine on record and is again suffering from drought ; commerce has been paralysed ; the finances seriously entangled ; heavy taxation laid upon the people ; and dissatisfaction and discontent evoked throughout the peninsula. These are the monumental scripta of Sir John Strachey's blessed administration of Indian Finance.

We will now briefly analyse the retrenchment circular of Sir John Strachey. He begins by saying, "*apart from other measures, which may become unavoidable for increasing the Public Revenues*, it is obviously necessary that all practicable limits should be placed on the Public Expenditure." The Italics are ours. Does this imply that the next year will witness the imposition of the Income tax, that the present circular is but a prelude to that serious drama ? But let that pass. He then goes on : "It has been shown, on former occasions, that during the last ten years there has been a very large reduction in the net Civil Expenditure of the Empire. Excluding Famine Relief, Loss by Exchange—an element, as just stated, beyond control—that reduction has not been less than £1,500,000, a year. Still further reduction must now be made." What did Sir John Strachey say when he produced the Budget of 1878 ? His words were then as follows : "*I fearlessly challenge any one having a sufficient knowledge of the real requirements of the administration to indicate any branch of the Civil Services of which it would not be far easier to give substantial proofs that more money is required for it than the converse.*" Has the same hand that wrote these words penned the warning in the circular before us ? What has led Sir John Strachey, who was so positive and defiant in December 1877, to be so pliant and so changed in May 1879. If it was not practicable in December 1877 to reduce one pice of expenditure, how has retrenchment now become practicable ? Upon the dogmatic assertion of 1877 was based the scheme of additional taxation to the tune of about a million and a half, which has become an incubus upon the people, and now that amount has been absorbed in direct violation of the plighted faith of the Government. Sir John has recurred to the old cry of retrenchment. Possibly with a view to show hereafter that having done what he could by way of reduction, he is obliged to have recourse to additional taxation. But is Sir John really sincere ? The ink with which he wrote the circular had scarcely become dry when he has sanctioned an additional Finance Commissioner for the Punjab including necessary establishment. Are we to understand that the Punjab Government could not go on without a new Financial Commissioner ? Sir John Strachey refers us to the reductions effected during the last ten years, and of these ten years he has been the factotum of the Government of India for about six years, that is to say, during the incumbency of Lord Mayo and Lord Lytton, and has not the increase of expenditure been the greatest during these six years ? We will mention a few items. Why was the salary of the Legislative Secretary raised from Rs. 36,000 to 50,000 per annum ? Why were a Deputy Secretary and an Assistant Secretary added to the Legislative Department ? One Secretary was deemed sufficient for Lord Dalhousie's Legislative Council, which legislated for all India without the intervention of the local councils, but we have now three, besides a temporary Law Commission. Why was the Etcetra Department *alias* the Agricultural Department formed with an additional Secretary *plus* a new establishment at a cost of about a lac and a half per annum ? Was not the work going on satisfactorily enough between the Home and Financial Departments ? A Director General of Statistics was appointed to do work which had hitherto been performed by the Financial Department. A Deputy Director General of the Post Office was created as if to give more time to the Director General for psalm-singing. Notwithstanding the enormous establishment of the Public Works Department a new Public Works Minister was created, who has up to this time done nothing to

justify his appointment. In almost every department there has been increase of expenditure so much so that if the establishments of 1879 were compared with those of 1859 or strictly speaking of 1856-57 prior to the Sepoy Mutiny, the increase would be found to range from one hundred to two hundred per cent., if not more. And yet Sir John Strachey takes credit for reduction in civil expenditure to the amount of a million and a half per annum during the last ten years. May we ask—is it all permanent reduction, which is referred to, or is it a decrease of such temporay charges as the establishment for the collection of the Income tax, and the like? Be that as it may if Sir John Strachey is really sincere in his desire for retrenchment, we hope he will proceed upon a properly defined general principle. We think the time has arrived for consideration as to whether the old distinction between the covenanted and uncovenanted services should be kept up and the present extravagant salaries of covenanted officers should be maintained. Why not make a list of those offices, which should be reserved for the chosen few by reason of the political power, which such offices carry, and then throw open the whole of the public service to the children of the soil on a reasonable scale of pay? Such a measure would be economical, just, and consistent with the past pledges of Government. It is sure to result in a considerable saving of expenditure. In the same way let the establishments of the present day be compared with those of 1856-57 and let all modern excrescences be lopped off except where there may be absolute necessity for some of the new offices. There ought to be a root and branch reform in the Public Works Department. Cooper's Hill College ought to be at once abolished and the general establishment of the Public Works Department considerably reduced. Sir John Strachey in the circular before us himself says: "The chief reductions in every Province will doubtless be made in the expenditure on Public Works. Without in any way contemplating greater restrictions on the power of the Local Governments in future than have been exercised under the rules actually in force, the Governor General in Council, as a temporary measure, and with the object of preventing fresh avoidable expenditure until further arrangements can be settled with the Local Governments, thinks it necessary to direct that no new work estimated to cost more than Rs. 2, 500, shall be commenced at the cost of Imperial or Provincial Funds, even though it may already have received the sanction of the Government. If, for some special reason, a Local Government desires that this order should in any case be relaxed, it will be at liberty to represent the circumtances to the Government of India. The same rule will be applicable to all Departments under the immediate administration of the Supreme Government. The present Resolution is intended chiefly for the ordinary expenditure; but it has been decided to make large reductions in the expenditure on productive Public Works also." But it will not do simply to reduce the works. There ought to be an extensive reduction of establishment. The growth of Public Works establishment within the last ten years is a gross public scandal and cannot be put an end to too soon.

With regard to military charges the circular says: "The Military charges constitute the most serious part of the Imperial obligations, but the present Resolution is not intended to refer to them; and His Excellency in Council will now only say regarding them that he is fully alive to the urgent and paramount duty which rests on the Government of India of striving to the utmost of its power to reduce the Military Expenditure within the narrowest limits consistent with public safety. His Excellency in Council knows that the Government of Her Majesty feels no less anxiety in this matter." Mere platitudes cannot replenish the treasury or save the empire. The Government of India has been over and over assuring the public that it is fully alive to the necessity of reducing the military expenditure and that it has duly urged upon the Home Government the justice of readjusting the Home Military charges on a sound and equitable basis. But what is the practical result? It is this that the English tax-payers must not be touched, but that the Indian tax-payers must pay. It the old story of the iron and the earthen vessels coming into collision—the earthen vessel as usual is smashed.

But we have not yet touched upon the moral of the new circular. If it proves anything more clearly than another it is this, that the finances of India are in a perilous state. The all-devouring jaws of Exchange are swallowing up every new resource; the Empire is burdened with a war, the total cost of which no one can foresee; and the prospects of the revenues are becoming gloomy owing to prostrated commerce and drought-stricken agriculture. Such being the case, the question is—with what face, what consistency, what conscience did the Government deliberately surrender £200,000, which some say will rise to £500,000, by the remission of the cotton duties? The Government is now almost begging for money, and yet it makes a parade of generosity, which is simply fatuous. It has flung away one-fifth of a million for the benefit of men, who do not appreciate its generosity, but on the contrary charge it with partiality. Nothing could be more deplorable or more humiliating than the financial administration of Sir John Strachey, and we submit with all deference that if he will now leave the country, he will really leave it for the country's good. He has careered over it long enough; it has paid dearly enough for the honor it has enjoyed; it is time that he should close his own account with it, and allow the people of India to begin their accounts anew. If words could paint fully and truly the misery and discontent, which his financial policy has produced among the inhabitants of this country, we could have presented him a picture, which would have harrowed his soul and made him pale, but we will not commit such a tragedy. We beseech him in the name of the dumb millions of our countrymen to leave the country for the country's good. He has played out the game of "Finance with Honor!"; let him now enjoy rest in the bosom of his own country.

THE SILVER QUESTION.

THE April number of the *Contemporary Review* contains a powerful article on the silver question by Mr. Stephen Williamson of Messrs. Balfour Williamson & Co., Liverpool. His object in writing this paper, he says, is to call attention to the serious injury inflicted on England's commerce by the discrediting of silver, and the contempt of the practical cutting of silver for the world's money, has been at the root of much national distress, during late years, and is now one of the chief hinderances to the return of prosperity. Undoubtedly, the writer remarks, our declension in 1873, 1874, and part of 1875, was the natural revulsion from undue extension, and from the unduly high prices paid for labour and the products of our industry. Since 1875 these causes, however, have ceased to operate. It is undoubtedly true that hostile tariffs and the competition of several nations (particularly the United States) have greatly curtailed the demand for the manufactured goods of England, which previously existed within their borders; but there is a large and open field in many quarters of the globe; and the lamentable fact is that in these regions, peculiarly English trade continues to languish as it does elsewhere, and the demand for English goods is greatly restricted and diminished. Now, what is the cause of all this. The writer remarks: "Our unwise legislation of 1816, which made gold sole legal tender in England, has been the underlying cause of all this evil. For years we played upon the currencies of Europe; and often swept away large quantities of silver for transmission to India, where with an admirable contradiction in our monetary legislation, we have enforced a silver currency. While availing ourselves of the stores of silver belonging to our continental neighbours, we constantly vaunted about the superiority of our gold currency, and stimulated them to follow our short-sighted example. Even a Liberal Chancellor of the Exchequer (Mr. Lowe) boasted in full Parliament, in the year 1869, that he had made a convert of France. Germany, however, stole a march on France in the same career which we had pointed out to them as the high road to success, and in 1874 decreed the demonetization of silver and its substitution by gold. France, which had, in conjunction with the States of the Latin Union, provided for the world an equilibrium or par of exchange between the two metals, by means of her free-mintage system and making both metals full legal tender on the ratio of 15½ of silver to 1 of gold, thereupon suspended the free coinage of silver. France was driven to this act by the unwise monetary legislation of powerful neighbours. The par of exchange provided betwixt gold and silver, money was thereby lost to the world. Silver was dethroned. War to the knife was declared against that metal. Gold now reigns supreme and omnipotent. The results have been disastrous in the extreme. The hard money capital of the world has been practically reduced from £1,400,000,000 to £800,000,000, and yet men are at a loss to account for the greatly reduced interchange of commodities, and the greatly reduced prices now paid for property, for goods, and for labour!" A large and influential committee of merchants in Liverpool is now investigating this question, and the following are the conclusions they have arrived at in so far as the effects of the discrediting of silver on the world's commerce are concerned:

1st.—"That the recent shrinkage in value of the world's silver money, measured in gold is very large, and there is every reason to fear that, with the prospect before us, the depreciation will continue to increase.

2nd.—"That there has been, besides, much diminution in the value of investments of English capital in the public funds, railways &c., of silver-using countries.

3rd.—"That we are now compelled to look upon the silver of the world as in large measure cut off from its previous sphere of usefulness as one of the two agents for the liquidation of international indebtedness

4th.—"That the serious diminution of the world's money, caused by the disuse of silver, may, in the future, lead to frequent panic, through the inadequate supply of Gold for the world's wants.

5th.—"That the uncertainty regarding the course of exchanges, in the future, largely prevents the further investment of English capital in the public fund of silver-using countries, or in railways, industrial enterprises and commercial credits.

6th.—That the friction and harassment now attending business with silver-using countries as India, China, Java, Austria, Chili, Mexico, and others naturally lead merchants to curtail their operations in the export of our manufactured goods, and to restrict the employment of English capital in such business.

7th.—"That this is a most serious question for India, which many believe to be so impoverished as not to be able to bear increased taxation.

8th.—"That the depreciation of silver seriously affects the power of silver-using States to purchase English manufactures, and leads to increased taxation, thus further curtailing the trade which has hitherto been carried on in English commodities.

The Special Committee of Inquiry at Liverpool was nominated a few weeks ago by the Chamber of Commerce, but the selection was not confined to members of that body. The Committee numbers seventeen merchants and bankers—men holding positions of the highest influence in the community. They have investigated the main facts regarding the production of the two precious metals, and have found that, whereas the supply of silver from the mines of the world early this century was in relation to gold as 3 to 1, the relative production was reversed 25 years ago when the yield of gold amounted to £33,000,000 per annum. At the present time the production is reduced to less than £19,000,000 of gold while silver is also falling off, and may now be taken at about £13,500,000. Their investigations are not yet concluded, but the committee have passed the following additional resolutions, which without attempting to foreshadow their ultimate conclusions, must inevitably point to the necessity for the rehabilitation of silver in the world:

"That the recent great fall in the price of silver is principally to be attributed, to the suspension of free-mintage in France and the states of the Latin Union, consequent upon the adverse action of Germany in demonetizing silver.

That the bi-metallic system of France and the other States of the Latin Union, in conjunction with free-mintage prior to 1875, tended to provide an equilibrium between the two metals and to give stability to all exchanges betwixt England and silver-using countries." The Committee lately waited in deputation upon the Lords of the Treasury to enforce their ideas with reference to the cause of depression of silver and they were received by the Chancellor of the Exchequer, the Secretary of State for India, and the Under-Secretary of State for India Sir Thomas Seccombe

and Sir Louis Mallet. The memorial which they presented was backed by men of considerable influence. The memorialists stated that on the 24th February last a special committee was appointed by the Council of the Liverpool Chamber of Commerce to enquire "as to remedial measures for the continued mercantile and manufacturing distress, as being largely caused and intensified by the discrediting of silver as money." The Committee considered, first, "the effects of the discrediting of silver on our commerce and industries," and, secondly, "the main facts regarding the production of the two precious metals during the present century." The Committee, being convinced that the recent fall in the price of silver cannot be attributed to excessive production, adopted the following resolution:—"That the recent great fall in the price of silver is principally to be attributed to the suspension of its free mintage in France and the States of the Latin Union, consequent upon the adverse action of Germany in demonetising silver." Previous to the year 1875 silver had been kept for a long period with very unimportant oscillations, and in such a relation to gold as to make it possible to speak of a par of exchange between the two metals. Upon this portion of the question the committee came to the following resolution:—"That the bi-metallic system of France and the other states of the Latin Union, in conjunction with free mintage prior to 1875, tended to produce an equilibrium between the two metals and to give stability to all exchanges between the silver-using countries and England." The third and last head enquired into by the special committee was,"what remedial measures ought now to be adopted so that silver may again perform internationally, its proper function as money?" when the following resolutions were adopted:—"1st—That a fixed ratio between gold and silver in conjunction with unlimited freedom of mintage and the recognition of the two metals as full legal tender money, would, if adopted by the majority of the leading monetary powers, including England and India, be adequate to restore silver to its former international value as money. 2nd—That it is desirable that our Government should adopt measures for securing an international agreement by which silver may be restored to its legitimate share in providing metallic currency sufficient for the wants of the world." The Memorialists accordingly pray Her Majesty's Government "will be pleased to take into their most serious consideration the prejudicial effect on our commerce and industries of the discrediting of silver as money in the world, and the hindrance it presents to any immediate and permanent improvement in those industries; and that, either by the immediate initiation of wise legislative measures, taken in conjunction with the majority of the leading monetary powers or by an appointment of a royal commission to enquire specially into the allegations made by your memorialists, regarding the very prejudicial effect of the discrediting of silver as money, as a step precedent to such action they will deal as speedily as possible with a question which your memorialists believe, and which they trust Her Majesty's Government will see, to be of vital importance to this country." The Chancellor of the Exchequer replied on behalf of Government by complimenting the Deputation upon the care and attention they had given to a subject so difficult; he hinted a difference of view, by intimating that it required to be considered from other points of view than those of the commercial interests. "Of course," he said, "it is very tempting to be told that the change proposed would enable the debtor to gain and nobody else to lose; but such opinions sound so good that very careful consideration is required before you can feel quite sure that they are true." It takes a generation as it was once wittily remarked for the English nation to get rid of its traditional ideas, and it will therefore be no easy task for the Liverpool Chamber of Commerce to thrust their ideas on the Silver Question into the heads of the Ministers of the Crown. But the interests at stake are so serious and so great in magnitude that the question cannot be longer shirked with impunity. Both England and India are suffering so badly in consequence of the present unsatisfactory state of the Silver Question that to put off the cure longer would be perhaps to kill the patient altogether. We in our humble way had from the beginning of this controversy been of opinion that a uniform silver coin which would be a legal tender throughout the British dominions would alone solve the exchange difficulty. The Liverpool Chamber of Commerce have come to the same conclusion with this difference that it would extend the scope of the monetization of silver to all the great countries of the world. If you can accomplish that consummation, by all means do so. But if the other monetary powers do not agree, let not the necessary reform halt for want of their co-operation. The British Empire is the widest in the world, and if the British Government once declares the legalization of silver throughout the British possession, the other powers will sooner or later follow that example.

FACTORY LABOUR IN INDIA.

I.

LORD SHAFTESBURY, whose name is honorably associated with many a philanthropic movement in England, has lent his voice to the advocates of Factory Legislation in India. His Lordship has been moved by generous and benevolent motives; but we are not prepared to say that his information was on all points correct. He said "that the state of things in India, in some departments of industry has become so cruel and oppressive and so disgraceful, I must say it, to the character of the Imperial Government, the evidence, moreover, from all quarters is so abundant and so strong, that I resolved once more to appeal for the aid of Parliament to redress the evil that exists and prevent the further extension of it." This we confess is too strong language. It is not justified by facts. His Lordship gave the following outline of his case:

1. The mills in India at present are mainly for working up jute and cotton and they are principally in Bengal and Bombay. 2. In Bengal there are about 14 jute mills and, I believe about four cotton. 3. In Bombay there are but one jute mill and 42 cotton mills, with 12,000,000 spindles and 6,000 looms. In Madras there are about three. 4. In the cotton mills of Bombay (I know not the population employed in those of Bengal and Madras) there are adult males, 17,000; women, 4,000; children, 5,000. The whole population employed throughout India in cotton mills may be estimated at 40,000. 5. The mills are mostly of recent construction, with modern machinery; the ventilation and drainage are fairly good, but capable of much improvement. 6. There are no restrictions by law either as to the hours during which work is carried on or the ages of children to be employed. All work the same number of hours. 7. The hours for work in the Bengal factories are ten, with two hours for meals, which means, no doubt, that the time prescribed is 12 hours, out of which two are taken for refreshment. In Bombay the hours of work vary from 11 to 13 a day, according to the time of year, but for meals only from 15 to 30 minutes are allowed in the middle of the day. 8. The temperature in the mills, as stated by the witnesses before the Government Commissioners, ranges from 90deg. to 95deg. of Fahrenheit. 9. The entire work is performed by all on their feet, children and adults being employed alike as to time and posture. 10. There is no seventh day of rest, nor half-holiday every Saturday, as with us; a Sunday now and then is taken, but it is for cleaning the machinery, not for the cessation of the labour of all the operatives. 11. The Hindoo holidays are about 14 in the year. 12. The proprietors are mostly Parsees; here and there there is an European director or manager. Now, in 1875, the subject having been often before the Government of Bombay, a commission of inquiry was appointed. About 26 witnesses were examined, most of them proprietors, managers, engineers connected with the mills, or operatives under mill influence. Six were Europeans. The testimony is almost universal that the hours of work are too many, the meal-times far too short; that the children perform their work standing, and work as long as the adults in a tremendous temperature, and that they are exposed to fearful accidents, and even to death, by the imperfect sheathing of machinery, Dr. Anderson, house surgeon to the hospital, says. "The number of hours is very oppressive to children and adults, especially to married women." But Mr. Henderson speaks out boldly and states, "The hours are much too long". He is asked, "You do not believe in millowners and pressowners forming an association and protecting the interests of the operatives?" "No," he replies, "they have no consciences." "Do you think the work kills them?" "Yes, it does." (Hear hear.) One would have thought that enough had been stated to move both the millowners and the Government to a sense of common humanity. Children—female children too, of the tenderest years—are worked 11 or 13 hours a day or seven consecutive days, for the Sunday is rarely observed except for the purpose of cleaning the machinery, in a temperature of from 90 to 95 degrees Fahrenheit, with one interval of 15 minutes for rest. Women within a month of confinement and less than that afterwards, are oppressed after the same fashion. Why, my lords, what more do you require? The whole evidence of 1833 rises up as a witness against them. Creed and colour, latitude and longitude, make no difference in the essential nature of man. No climate can enable infants to do the work of adults or turn suffering women into mere steam engines.

Although His Lordship's remarks were entirely directed against Bombay he advocated a sweeping measure for all India. This indiscriminate generalisation we respectfully submit was not worthy of the great philanthropist. Even as regards Bombay the Indian Minister contradicted his statements. He said, "a great deal of the evidence has been taken from letters addressed to himself or from personal interviews he has had, and I am bound to say it is not borne out by evidence afforded me by persons who have had similar facilities." Viscount Cranbrook added: "The noble Earl has, perhaps, not sufficiently inquired into what was happened since the year 1875. In that year the Commission reported, by a majority of about four or two against legislation. No doubt there was much to be said in favour of legislation, but at the same time it must be remembered that the Commission, having taken evidence, did not, in fact, report that it was necessary." Again: "The circumstances, are so peculiar and present so curious a contrast to those in which the English operative works, that I must be allowed to call attention to them very briefly. These factories, as I understand, during many parts of the year are practically thrown open. The air outside is of much the same temperature as that within, and, though during the rainy season and when the wind is high the ventilators are shut, still for the greater part of the year the work people are almost in the open air. Of course, I admit that when the ventilators are shut there should be some means of regulating and superintending the temperature of the mills. Then, with respect to the intended sanitary improvements, the defects pointed out by the noble earl and the short time allowed for meals will be remedied by the measure now under consideration. Those who have been in India will know how extremely peculiar the conditions of labour are in that country, and especially in one particular—namely, as no work being done by artificial light. Consequently the hours of labour vary considerably, the operatives working from sunrise to sunset, so that the day is sometimes very long and sometimes comparatively short. I am aware that the noble earl did not say that the working day was 16 hours except in unusual circumstances, but the real time commonly varies from 11 to 13 hours. I quite agree with the noble earl that it is not a question what the children do. They are there for the purpose of work, and of course their employers get as much out of them as possible; but in the Bombay mills everything is done by piecework, and is not paid for at so much a day. No one imagines that outside the factories we can carry the protection of work people to the extent desired by the noble earl. We cannot stop polygamy, nor can we prevent husbands from extorting and wasting the earnings of their wives, though I am bound to say that, from all I can hear, habits of thrift are more general than the noble earl seems to suppose." His Lordship thus concluded: "These Indian factories have attracted a good deal of attention, and there is an impression in India—an erroneous impression—that an attempt is being made in this country to put checks upon them for the sake of encouraging English manufactures. I would to the utmost of my ability oppose anything of that kind. (Hear, hear.) We have had one instance in England of the effect of such a policy, and we have learnt a lesson that will last for several generations, when we put down the manufactures of Ireland in a way that most cruelly affected her prosperity,

(Hear hear.) We do not wish to check Indian manufactures, though the children and young persons employed certainly require and ought to receive the attention of the Legislature."

Viscount Cranbrook's speech exposed the weak points in Lord Shaftesbury's harangue. The latter, led away by his generous impulses, gave credence to statements which did not stand the test of official scrutiny. If things were so bad as Lord Shaftesbury described them, we would be the first persons to support His Lordship, but until it is made clear that legislation is really needed for the relief of the poor work-people at the Indian mills, we cannot surrender our opinion that legislative interference will do more harm than good.

II.

THE *Pioneer* invites discussion of this subject in a four and a half columns article, and as the writer has advanced his arguments in a calm and temperate manner, he is fairly entitled to attention. The gist of his reasoning is to disprove the position assumed by the British Indian Association. He says: "The British Indian Association vacillates between approval of the principle of the proposed bill and disapproval. In one sentence it acknowledges that "the State as the guardian of the public has an undoubted right to interfere with the rights of labour in the interests of humanity," but in the next says that "the question of the regulation of factory labour, the committee are of opinion, should be left to the operation of the natural laws of supply and demand." The Association approves of the provisions of the Bill so far as these relate to the prevention of accidents, "in the interests of humanity," but fails to see that the effects upon the operatives, and especially upon child-bearing women and children, of the strain on their systems produced by unremitting work in an impure atmosphere, are more constant, more wide-spread, more destructive, and more urgently demand prevention than accidents." We think the opinion of the Association is distinct on the point that there is no need for legislative interference with factory labour in India. The provisions for the regulation of machines for the prevention of accidents are one thing, and those for the employment of labour another. The question of health raised by the writer is too indefinite to be determined by mere platitudes. Where are the statistics to show that the workmen at the mills enjoy less health than operatives in other fields of labour? Is the boy at the native smithy's shop better off than the boy at the jute or cotton mill? Is the boy carrying loads on his head in sun and rain for miles and miles better off than the boy at the jute and cotton mill? Are the doolia bearers carrying on their shoulders the palanquin, bound to some twenty miles a day, and journeying both day and night, better off than the adult operatives at the jute or cotton mill? Is the brazier, working day and night upon his anvil better off than the mill man? Are the mechanics at the workshops or the Railway Work-people, labouring day and night, better off than the mill operatives? We could multiply instances of this kind, but they are too well known to require specification. The conditions of labour in this country in other lines are not so pleasant that factory labor alone should be considered irksome or injurious to health. The writer says, "the influences which are undermining their constitutions and the way in which these act, they (the operatives) do not understand." This is more or less true of labourers of all classes, for their want is greater than care for health. But are not their constitutions more effectually undermined by malarious fever, and has the Government done any thing to undo the influences of that deadly disease?

The writer remarks: "There is no real freedom or equality of contract between employer and employed in a case such as this. The employer buys the labour of the workman, but the workman gives more than his labour; he barters away his health and probably his life, which he would not sell at the price if he were better informed. This consideration applies with particular force to the case of the children. Neither they nor their parents or guardians, in whom mercenary motives, usually overcome affection, nor their employers, can be trusted to decide what number of hours work they can perform without detriment to their health." The Association says rightly enough that "the greater the freedom of contract permitted to all classes the better," but there is no rule without an exception. In the present case freedom can be permitted only up to a certain limit. At that limit it becomes the duty of the State, in the interests of humanity, to intervene." But what proof is there that that limit has been reached? Is there greater mortality among factory operatives than among other classes of laborers? And in the absence of such proof how can it be asserted that the reasonable limit having been already exceeded the State should intervene in the interests of humanity? The Association write: "Nothing could be more pleasing, than the sight of the smart little children, generally full of health and spirits, working at the spindles." The writer in the *Pioneer* says: "This description of the children when they first enter the mills is correct; their health is good and their spirits are high; but had the members of the committee extended their observation to the young work people who had passed the years from childhood to adolescence in work at the spindles, they would have found that the once shapely forms of the children had lost all symmetry." For our part we confess we have seen several mills in Bengal, at different stages, and have not observed the skeletons which the writer so pathetically describes. We have no experience of Bombay but we can say of Bengal that his description does not apply to it at all. The writer then goes on: "It has been assumed that the protest of the British Indian Association is entitled to the more weight, because the prejudices of the Association might have been expected to be in favour of the protection of the mill hands and against the millowners. This would be a pleasant view of the probable sympathies of the Association, but what title can the Association show to represent the class from which the mill hands are drawn? So far indeed from there being any reason to suppose that the natural sympathies of the Association are with the "poor operative," as the committee following the example of some of the millowners of Bombay, are pleased to designate the mill workman, there are not wanting grounds for the suspicion that their protest was not made entirely without the knowledge of their Bombay friends." We can assure the writer that there has been no collusion between the British Indian Association and the Bombay millowners. The Association wrote from their own experiences of Bengal. As for their natural sympathy, it has been always on the side of the laborers, and not on that of employers of labor. If the writer will refer to the reports of the Association, he will find that they have always fought the battles of the helpless labourers. Did they not oppose the Criminal Contracts Bill, which was brought in for the solution of the labour question on the indigo districts, but which ultimately fell through owing to their opposition? Did they not suggest numerous amendments in the Assam Labour Contracts Bills? In this matter of factory labor, if any thing their sympathy would have been on the other side, for the establishment of mills has led to an enormous rise in the wages of labour, so much so that artizans and servants have become scarce and the general community have been consequently put to much inconvenience. If the mills were closed or clogged by special laws, the labour market would become easy, and the general community would gain by a fall in the wages of labour. But the Association have not been moved by selfish feelings in the matter; they are convinced that the mills have done great good to the labouring population, who have emerged from an almost hopeless state of pauperism to comparative affluence, and as restrictions upon factory labour might result in loss to the "poor operative," they object to the proposed obstructions. This is the secret of the opposition of the British Indian Association to the Factory Bill. At the same time if the object of the Legislature be simply to legalize the present system of factory labour, as proposed in Mr. Sorabjee Shapoorjee Bengali's Bill, we do not see much objection to such a course. That Bill provides as follows:

1. No mill or factory shall be at work for more than six days in every seven days.
2. No adult female shall be employed in any mill or factory for more than ten hours in any one day.
3 There shall be allowed in the course of every day not less than one hour for rest or meals to every adult male, adult female, and young person.....such one hour to be allowed in the case of adult males and females after the first five hours of work on any day and in the case of young persons after the first four hours of work on any day: provided that it shall not be necessary to allow any time for rest or meal to young persons who shall be employed in any mill or factory for not more than five hours per day.

This is the existing system, and if there are hard task-masters, who do not strictly follow it, and inflict unnecessary hardships upon the "poor operative," legislative safeguards may be imposed for the protection of the labourer. But any thing like the factory laws of England will ruin the rising industry in India and prove a national misfortune.

THE REMISSION OF THE COTTON DUTIES —"A POLITICAL DISHONESTY."

NOTHING could be more discouraging and disheartening to India than the debate in the House of Commons on the repeal of the Cotton Duties. As Sir George Campbell said, it was "a political dishonesty" on the part of the Government to have assented to a compromise last year to the effect that the duties complained of should be remitted as soon as the revenues of India would admit of it, and then to have carried out the measure, as it has now done, when bankruptcy is staring it in the face. With the exception of a few honorable and enlightened members the House seemed to care little for the interests of Her Majesty's subjects in India. The position assumed in the House was simply astounding. One member after another rose and said that the remission of the duties lately ordered by the Government of India was not enough, that the whole of the duties should go at once, never mind the loss which it might inflict upon the revenues of India. The advocates of this sweeping measure professed to be the most zealous and sincere friends of the people of India. Mr. Briggs, who brought forward the motion, said that the cotton tax was not paid by the people of England but by those of India, and that he advocated the repeal of the duties in the interest of both India and Lancashire. He remarked: "It was the mill-owners of India who wished to have the duties maintained to further their own selfish interests. If they were abolished to-morow, not a penny on that account would go in to the pockets of the Lancashire millowners. Lancashire would undoubtedly be indirectly benefited, because the purchasing power of the Hindoo would be increased." He condemned those selfish officials of India, who could not see that the half-anna tax per head which the cotton duties involved was the severest burden that was ever laid upon the people of India. To use his glowing rhetoric "they could build palaces and construct great works with the money of a famine-stricken people, but they took care that Lancashire should not be benefited by the remission of taxation by which they were themselves at all benefited." Selfish wretches, these narrow-minded Indian officials, they do not understand either the interests of India or Lancashire, they are inflated with pride, and care not for the world beside: Mr. Briggs charitably added: "He would not dwell upon the inconsistent policy which exempted rich and highly-paid Indian officials from income-tax and reimposed it on the poor tax-payer, neither would he enlarge upon the curious custom or law which forbade officers of Her Majesty in India accepting presents from natives above a certain amount and yet allowed them to speculate largely on Indian mills, for whose benefit the people were taxed to the extent of £2.000,000 a year; but this he said, that those who were answerable to the shareholders and proprietors of the mills desired to see the duties maintained, not in the interest of India, but because they knew that they were a hindrance to the great industry of Lancashire with which they had

to compete." And all this nonsense we are surprised to observe was quietly swallowed by the House of Commons. Mr. Briggs bragged of his party power when he said in a somewhat threatening manner that Lancashire will not give in because Indian officials are opposed to it. He said: "If India, backed up by her natural advantages, could compete successfully with and undersell Lancashire, that country would have to bow her head; but she would not surrender her proud position without a prolonged struggle, and all she asked from the House was that her strong arms might be unfettered, her thews and sinews have free play, and that this exotic growth of Indian mills might not be shielded by the House of Commons from the healthful breezes of open competition. (Hear, hear.) His experience was that whenever remissions of taxation were asked for they were met with able and elaborate financial statements to prove that India never had, had not now, nor never would have a single six pence out of which to recoup the revenue for the loss which remission would involve." Pity that Mr. Briggs had not postponed his motion a month later, for he would have then known what the actual financial position of India was. His seconder went further. He said: "The fact that the people of India were poor was to his mind a strong argument in favour of the proposal of his hon. friend, which, if acted upon, would relieve them of a part of the expense to which they were put in buying clothing." We have said that the cotton tax comes to about half an anna per head per annum, but it is productive; it yields about four-fifths of a million. It is notorious that India cannot sacrifice the revenue, which the repeal of Cotton Duties would involve. Fresh taxes must be had recourse to in order to recoup the loss; would it be a relief to the tax-payers of India to pay a four shillings tax upon earnings of £10 per annum in lieu of this half anna? We invite the Manchester friends of India to answer this question. Mr. Sidebottom, the seconder of Mr. Briggs, said: "He might be asked how the deficiency in the Indian finances was to be made good; but that was a question for those who were specially reponsible. It was obvious, however, that if the natives of India were relieved from this special tax upon their clothing, they would be better able to bear any other burden that might be necessary. It would be far better to place a tax on the mills of India than that Lancashire should be charged with the heavy burden which she had now to bear. While the poorer classes of India were heavily taxed, the rich landowners of Bengal and others were among the most lightly taxed people in the world If their enormous wealth was secured to them by the stability of our rule, it was only right that they should bear their share of the necessary expenditure by an income tax or such other tax as might be desirable." How logical and just. The Cotton lords of Lancashire want money, and the Bengal Zemindars must feed them by paying an income tax!

We have said that there were some honorable and enlightened members who did not fail to advocate the just claims to India. Mr. Noel, for instance, remarked:

The removal of these duties either meant the imposition of new taxes in India or a new loan. If fresh taxation was to be laid on the people of India it must be more onerous than the licence-tax, and if he knew anything of the people of Lancashire after their noble conduct during the cotton famine he would say, if they really understood that the result of granting what they asked would be to saddle the people of India with a burden more onerous than the licence-tax, they would be the last to insist upon it. (Hear.) If hon. gentlemen wished these duties repealed let them insist on economical government and the impolicy of war and aggression. Until a surplus was obtained by reduction of expenditure, it would be unfair and unwarrantable to pass a resolution in favour of the abolition of a tax which could only be abolished by increasing the burdens of an already overburdened people.

Mr. MacIver was still more emphatic:

He intended to have asked the House to say that in their opinion "no protective tariff as against our home industries should be permitted in any portion of the British Empire, and that we should as far as practicable trade with the rest of the world, and particularly with our own colonies and dependencies, on principles of reciprocal free trade." It had been assumed throughout the argument in support of the motion that if the duties referred to were abolished the trade of Lancashire would flourish. He believed on the other hand, that even under system of unqualified free trade Lancashire would in the long run be beaten out of the field by India. The time was coming when the people of this country would recognize the fact that the principle of free trade had been a total failure. What did freetraders abroad mean by the phrase? They meant reciprocal free trade. What Mr. Cobden and what the right hon. gentleman the member for Birmingham hoped for from free trade was very different from what the adoption of the policy had resulted in.

Mr. Muntz, member for Birmingham, supported the last speaker;

A great deal of sentimental affection for the poor Indian peasant had been professed by advocates of that motion; but he thought it would be better to get rid of all such pretexts and to say at once that the men of Lancashire and Cheshire took up that question simply because they wanted to cease paying that duty. Instead of attacking that duty of 5 per cent. in India why did they not bring forward the case of Canadian tariff, which imposed far heavier import duties? In the Dominion a Parliament had been returned by popular election for the avowed purpose of largely increasing the existing high duties. Why, then did not the hon. member for Blackburn move an address to Her Majesty praying her to withhold her assent from any legislation of that kind passed in Canada? The hon. gentleman knew that would be of no use, because the Canadians possessed a system of self-government, whereas the poor Indian had no one to represent him in that House, and must pay the last farthing of taxation without saying one word. Talk of a 5 per cent. duty on cotton goods what did they think of the duty of over 1.200 per cent imposed on salt in Madras? Before they cried out for the repeal of a paltry duty of 5 per cent. for a selfish purpose let them consider the unhappy peasant in India who paid so enormous a tax on such a first necessary of life and health as salt. (Hear.) He was, therefore, totally opposed to that motion, which, he thought, ought not to have been brought forward. The cotton trade might now be depressed, but so also were the iron, coal, and wool trades, and that was the case in most other countries as well as in this. Although the state of trade was lamentable they would not make it much better by doing an act of injustice to the people of India (Hear, hear.)

Mr. Onslow remarked:

If Lancashire operatives were let alone, he did not think they would care straw one way or the other as to this question. The people of India were taxed to the utmost they could bear, and if any hon. member thought that by economy in India these duties could be reduced he was greatly mistaken. If they wished to have free trade in India and he was not to deprecate free-trade—in cotton goods, why not bring forward a motion to reduce the duty on tea and coffee? But they did not wish to have that, because it was well known the House would never consent to the reductions he had specified. No consideration was shown to India; and he felt compelled to say that his Lancashire friends had made out no case why the House should show any consideration whatever to them. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. Fawcett thus spoke:

Mr. Fawcett contended that before any proposal for a further reduction of the Indian duties could be entertained it should be shown that the Indian revenue was capable of bearing that reduction or that the loss of revenue could be made up in some other way. Now India at the present moment not only possessed no surplus, but had to face one of the heaviest deficits that ever perplexed a Finance Minister (Hear, hear.) A more unfortunate moment, therefore, could not have been chosen by the hon. member for Blackburn for asking the House to pledge itself to a sacrifice of £750,000 a year of Indian revenue without the slightest indication as to how that revenue was to be replaced. What was the use of the Under-Secretary of State arranging the figures of Indian finance in such a way as to show there was a surplus; It was only the other day that he appealed to the House as a matter of urgency to authorize him to borrow ten millions for India. Many as were the evils resulting from the duties in question there were greater evils iresulting from other existing imposts. If they were to select a duty for special condemnation why should they not select that imposed upon the export of rice and other grain? (Hear hear.) The question before the House ought to be postponed until India had got rid of some of her indebtedness and had at her disposal an available surplus. There was but one way in which the duty, the subject of the motion could be safely and justly repealed and that was by the adoption of a policy of rigid retrenchment and wise economy in the administration of India. They ought not to sacrifice the interest of that great Empire for the sake of English politics. (Hear hear.) They talked of the duties as protective, but he asked, was there a single colony of ours in which protective duties of a more stringent character were not imposed? Why did they not expend a little portion of their indignation on those colonies. Why did they pour it all upon the head of India? He trusted that the House would reject a reckless financial proposition and would not in the face of a serious deficit sanction a sacrifice of revenue more especially as they had not before them any proposition as to the means of replacing it. (Hear, hear.)

But the Manchester party was strong and it carried the day. The Chanceller of the Exchequer cleverly handled Manchester and got the following motion passed: "That this House accepts the recent reduction of these duties as a step towards their total abolition, to which Her Majesty's Government are pledged." Thus both Manchester and Government triumphed leaving the philosophic spectator to ponder over "the political dishonesty" to which the out-spoken ex-Governor of Bengal had so pointedly alluded.

OFFICIAL MORALITY.

THE following letter, which is authenticated by some of the most respectable gentlemen in the district of Hooghly, gives a strange story of official morality:

"The proceedings of the last meeting of the Road Cess Commissioners of Hooghly held on the 23rd of April 1879 are likely to be interesting to the public.

The first business of the day was to consider the question of the future pay and allowance of Mr. Forbes, the District Engineer. The thirteenth (being the last but one) business was to consider a letter from the Commissioner of Burdwan enclosing a letter from the Government Superintending Engineer of Rajsahi making certain grave strictures on the professional conduct of Mr. Forbes, when he served under him. The first question was decided in favour of the District Engineer; he received an increase of pay and a promise of a further increase on the sub-division of Jehanabad reverting to the District of Hooghly. We shall presently see how this decision was arrived at. On considering the thirteenth question, the letter of the Superintending Engineer of the Rajsahi Division was found so damaging to the professional reputation of Mr. Forbes that there was no other alternative than to call for an explanation from him. It may appear a little anomalous that on the same day the same officer should on the one hand be rewarded with a large increase of pay and on the other hand he called upon to explain conduct which unless satisfactorily explained would make him subject to grave censure if not dismissal from service. Now, it is to be presumed the Chairman knew the nature of the communication from the Superintending Engineer of Rajsahi and we cannot comprehend why he did not so arrange that the two questions might be taken up simultaneously, viz., the question of increase of pay and the question of the Superintending Eagineer's letter of censure, Far from doing that, however, he did not, when the question of increase of pay was being discussed, drop even a hint that the Commissioners would soon have to consider a letter from a very high authority censuring Mr. Forbes—a letter which the Commissioner of Burdwan had thought it necessary to communicate to the Road Cess Committee. The wording of the business list could give the Commissioners no idea that there was such a letter. In that list the affair of this severe letter of censure is thus put: "Commissioner's letter No. 76 dated 18th February 1873 with enclosures, on the subject of the construction of the 1st section of the road the place of which was prepared by Mr. Forbes." Now, no one on reading this simple statement could make out, as the saying goes, whether it was a snake or frog. The question is why did the Chairman, knowing the contents of this letter, ask the Commissioners to sanction the increase of pay without letting them know what the mysterious letter contained? It is this question which must be answered by him somewhere.

Now about the increase of pay. Last year when Mr. Wells, the Hooghli Road Cess District Engineer, resigned it was resolved to reduce the pay of the post. It was even suggested that a native Engineer on Rs. 400 should be taken. But the then Chairman of the Road Cess Commissioners advertised for a District Engineer on Rs. 550 a month. He was pleased to appoint Mr. Forbes, who was one of the candidates for the post, on that pay, but rising to Rs. 650 in the course of two years. On the expiration of only one year, however, Mr. Forbes thought that his salary should by annual increment come up to Rs. 850 and that he was entitled to a further increase on the ground that the Sub-division of Jehanabad had been ordered by Government to be retransferred to the District of Hugli. The modest demand of Mr. Forbes therefore was to have his salary raised frome Rs. 550 to something between 850 and 1000 Rs. in the course of a few years. Most of the native Commissioners present at the meeting objected very strongly to any increase being given and it was clearly established that from the terms of his letter of appointment, he could not claim as a matter of right, any increase beyond Rs. 650. It was also pointed out that an extension of jurisdiction does not necessarily entitle to an officer an increase of pay, but that even considering that Mr. Forbes was entitled to an increase in consequence of the addition of Jehanabad to the District, that question could only be discussed after the transfer had taken place and not before, and that the question, therefore, had been brought before the Commissioners rather too early. The application of Mr. Forbes for increase of pay being thus found to have no peg to stand upon, the Chairman took a rather extraordinary step. He asked if any of the commissioners present would volunteer to make a proposal for the increase of the District Engineer's pay. One of the native commissioners was ready to follow the beck of the Chairman and moved the necessary Resolution, but no one would second it; the Chairman then seconded it himself. The question was then put to the vote, the votes happened to be equally divided, the proposer and the official members being for increase and the non-official members, all of whom were natives, being opposed to it. The Chairman called in one of the European Commissioners who had left the room a little before. He came and voted for the increase and thus it was decided that the District Engineer's salary would by annual increment rise to Rs. 850 and that he would get a further increase on the retransfer of Jehanabad to the District of Hooghli. It may be interesting to note that the only argument advanced in favour of the increase was that no officer could be expected to do his duty properly who did not receive encouragement in that shape.

It should be borne in mind that it was expressly with the object of reducing the salary of the District Engineer that Mr. Forbes was appointed on a reduced pay on the resignation of Mr. Wells, though it would have been much better then to have employed a native (and there were many thoroughly well-qualified native candidates) on the comparatively small pay of Rs. 400. Within a few years of his appointment however, his salary will rise to the large amount of something like 1,000 Rs. This is the way in which economy is observed in the expenditure of public money and the spirit of the wise resolution of the Lieutenant Governor, directing native Engineers to be appointed on smaller pay, practically obeyed. When the greater number of villages have as yet received no direct benefit whatever from the Road Cess to which they are made to contribute their quota, a large part of the proceeds of the cess is eaten up by establishment charges which might without the least difficulty be considerably reduced. It is time that some checks be devised to restrain this deplorable waste of public money.

AN OBSERVER.

Now, the Hooghly Road Cess Committee is composed of some of the best men of the district, who are intelligent, reasonable, moderate, and at the same time independent. These gentlemen have been greatly mortified at the gross jobbery committed by the Civilian Chairman with the

official phalaux behind his back. But it is worse than a jobbery. Our correspondent charges the Chairman with a crookedness which we hope will be explained. If there was such a serious letter against Mr. Forbes noted in item 13 of the agenda, why was item No. 1, about the increase of salary disposed of independently? And when the votes were in the first instance against the increase, why was a member sent for by the Chairman, and a majority thus packed up?

The whole thing smacks of a low morality, which we were ill prepared to witness in the head of a district. We dare say the matter will receive due attention from the Lieutenant Governor, and pending his decision we reserve further remarks.

RELIGIOUS ENDOWMENTS.
II.

(From a Correspondent.)

I have already described the state of the bureau of religious Trusts between 1810 and 1841 when Government commenced gradually to withdraw its management from all religious institutions of the land. The question is whether its revival is called for by the exigencies of the hour. On the one hand the advocates of fresh legislation base their contention on the existence of grave abuses and the sore need that exists for their removal, on the other hand the opposition admitting that abuses have taken place in particular cases strennously deny their existence as a rule and maintain that the remedy proposed to be applied would be worse than the disease. I propose with your permission to discuss both these views and shew how far they are each entitled to attention. There is no doubt that cases of grave abuse might be cited. The Kanchonnugger endowment in the Burdwan district furnished an apposite illustration a few years ago. Founded by the munificent ancestor of the present Maharaja of Burdwan and richly endowed with landed property of great value, the resources of the establishment admitted of the administration of varied and substantial relief to distress. The Mohunth was a follower of Vishnu, and the institution, Vyshnubite in its character, situated in a beautiful locality, its well-built temples were sacred to Krishna, the most popular deity of the Indian Mythology whose worship enjoins the purest system of dietary yet invented by man, scores of well-fed and sleek cows browsed or ruminated under its shady trees and lent to the scene a rural charm, which painters might have loved to transfer on canvas. On fete-days crowds of devotees gathered around the house of worship and drank of that fountain from which swells forth the deep devotion so peculiar to the followers of Chytanna. A succession of saintly anchorites raised the reputation of the shrine and added to its sanctity and its revenue. At last the mantle fell on that worst of libertines—a religious libertine, he profaned the sanctuary, he tasted of forbidden pleasures, he lavished the temple-treasures on frail women and in ungodly feasts, scandals rose high and for weeks and months, the director of religious devotion in one of the foremost districts of Bengal, became the butt of ridicule and the mark of men's scorn. The wave of popular indignation reached the lordly patron and he put the matter into the court. The district tribunal became the scene of a *causus celebre*, malversation of funds to a serious extent, personal profligacy of a most shameful character, were all exposed, and the luxurious fop, who had exchanged the waist-rope and the waist-tatter for the silken guddee, resunk into that sea of religious mendicancy, which beats arouud the homes and haunts of Hinduism in the great cities of India.

The other case of abuse of priestly power is fraught with revelations more painful still. Within less than twenty miles from the quiet little station of Bydyabatti on the East Indian Railway and accessible by a good road, stands the shrine of Tarruckeshwar. It is one of the oldest temples of the country and dedicated to Mahadeva under the attractive name of Lord Saviour. Next to Bydanath there is no place of pilgrimage which has such a strong hold on the popular mind. on the last day of the Bengali year sacred to the worship of that divine Force; our ideas of which have been crystallized in the concrete conception of Shiva, there may be seen all along the road to the shrine a continuous stream of pilgrims of all ranks, ages and sexes. Owing to its convenient distance from the metropolis the cockney element musters strong in demonstrative devotion. In ante-epidemic times when the villages and the hamlets of South Hooghly were the abodes of health, many a fair dame confined life-long to the seclusion of a city zenana relieved the dull monotony of the life by slow journeys, during which they breathed the fresh air and tasted the sweet waters of the country. And now with the Railway and the Telegraph at our command the holy shrine has become almost a Metropolitan Institution and is beseiged by eager multitudes at all seasons of the year. Those modern appliances of civilization, however, have told but little upon the sway of the popular god, for crowds of pilgrims still flock to him with offerings of love and of faith, there the barren wife and afflicted mother jostle each other as they fondly hope to have their prayers vouchsafed, as they bow down before him in humble adoration, and there the weary patient to whom perhaps years of sufferings have embittered the very springs of life drags himself along and asks for a cure from maladies for which human skill and human knowledge have been found to be of no avail.

Such was the temple which as it were but yesterday was in the hands of a man of the name of Madhubgiri. The story of his trial, Sir, is yet too fresh in the minds of your readers to need recapitulation here. It is enough to say that in the dark pages of the history of crime his deed stands recorded in colors equalled but rarely in its hideous darkness. That deed moved Bengali society so much as no single social event of recent years moved it. A beauteous lady, the wife of a poor neighbour, whose honor whose person, should have been sacred in the eyes of all, certainly doubly sacred in the eyes of the man who was the spiritual father and the moral teacher of the country, was the victim of his lust; he degraded himself into a beast and songht and achieved the diabolical success of a destroyer of her virtue by a reckless waste of the public wealth entrusted to his keeping. The misguided husband in a transport of fury killed his wife whom he could not protect, not like the Roman father before the serpent could trail and touch, but alas! after it had coiled but too fatally around his fairest flower and tainted it. The country rose as one man and demanded vengeance on the guilty oppressor, he was seized and tried, his trial took place before one of the ablest judges of Bengal. It tasked the energies of distinguished men in the profession. The whole of Lower Bengal watched the proceedings with the keenest interest. The Court-house was filled to suffocation. In and about it, crowds of spectators waited to hear the verdict with the utmost impatience. On his way from Jail to Court and back the prisoner was pelted at and hooted. The Police protected his person but with difficulty. The indignant multitude chafed and murmured and not until justice had pronounced her stern sentence. could there be perceived a gleam of satisfaction in that sea of faces, which had surged backwards and forwards for the long days of the trial along the walks and the flight of steps on the river-bank at Hooghly

The Nemesis of national justice was thus appeased, but very few amongst the thousands of spectators who lined the shore on that memorable occasion, knew that the priestly prisoner, in defending himself against one crime, had been committing a series of crimes. He had been brought up to answer a charge of violating individual honor and disturbing the peace of a private family, but in the dock before the Judge he had been hourly committing robbery and breach of trust by appropriating the Treasure chest of the Temple to his private defence. Every rupee which formed the fund for the defence was money which had been contributed by the pilgrims for holy purposes, and the indignation of a wronged community would have been hundred-fold, if it had understood that the Mohunth of Tarukeshwar had waged war upon its honor with means furnished by *itself*, that he had stabbed the chastity of his devotee with a dagger of gold and defended himself, when justly attacked in return with a shield of gold, and that gold the gift of those whose confidence he had trampled under foot and at the bar of whose collective opinion he stood as a culprit.

C.

LATEST NEWS AND NOTES.

WE GIVE a prominent insertion to the following notice of motion in the House of Commons by Mr. O'Donnell M. P.:

Mr. O'Donnell,—To call attention to the reply of the Governor General of India to a Deputation of the British Indian Association on the subject of Indian taxation; and to move, that, in the opinion of this House, it is deeply regretable that the representative of the sovereign should have addressed such unbecoming and injurious language to a body of Her Majesty's most respected and deserving Indian subjects.

We hope other Indian friends will support Mr. O'Donnell. Of course with a standing majority of 60 the Government is sure to carry the day, but even the ventilation of the subject in Parliament will not be without some moral effect.

WE NOTICE with pleasure the recognition of the eminent literary services of Dr. Rajendralala Mittra by the Government of Bengal. We give the letter below not because we set any value upon the amount awarded but because we do appreciate the spirit in which it is offered:

REVENUE DEPARTMENT
MISCELLANEOUS.
No. 1090
89 Mis.

From,—H. L. Harrison Esq.,—Officiating Secretary to the Government of Bengal—To,—Roy Rajendralala Mitra Bahadoor L. L. D. and C. I. E. Calcutta, the 3rd May 1879.

SIR,—In continuation of Mr. Mackenzie's letter No. 473-41 Mis. of the 22nd February, 1879, I am directed to say that, in consideration of your having at the request of Government, visited Buddh Gya in September, 1877, and inspected the work of the Burmese then employed there in repairing the old Buddhist temple and other buildings, and of your having devoted much time and trouble to the work on which you were deputed as evidenced by the excellent and very useful work on the "Hermitage of Sakya Muni" which resulted from this visit, the Lieutenant-Governor is pleased to grant you a honorarium of Rs. 2,000 which the Accountant General will be requested to pay to you.

I have the honor to be,
SIR,
Your Most Obedient Servant,
Sd. H. L. HARRISON,
Offg. Secretary to the Government of Bengal.

A Junior Civilian passing the high proficiency standard in oriental languages carries away a prize of Rs. 2,000! It is reserved for a Hunter or a Wheeler to realise almost fortunes for literary services done to Government. Nevertheless we feel grateful to Sir Ashley Eden that some substantial token of appreciation, though we cannot help thinking a very meagre one, has been conveyed to the first Indian scholar for his many and distinguished literary services.

THE LICENSE TAX is responsible for several industrial commotions in Calcutta. First the washermen's strike, next the farriers' strike, and now the tailors strike. The washermen's strike has resulted in a general rise in the wages of washermen to the detriment of the general community. The farriers' strike has been amicably settled by Mr. Souttar by a reduction of the tax from Rs. 12 to Rs. 2 per head. The tailors' strike has just commenced; the master tailors have resolved not to give in to recusant tailors, who have demanded increase of wages owing to the new tax, nor to recieve them back after the lapse of a fixed period. Evidently great distress is in store for the unfortunate men. All this is due to the blessed License tax of Sir John Strachey.

ANOTHER CASE OF PERSONAL GOVERNMENT. The following judgment of the High Court gives the facts of the case with its opinion thereon:

Jackson J. (*Mc Donell, J.* concurring)—This case comes before us on a petition of Jeetoo Lall, who was tried before the Assistant Magistrate of Monghyr on a charge of being a member of an unlawful assembly, and was convicted and sentenced to a fine of Rs. 200, and in default of payment to three month's simple imprisonment and was also bound down to keep the peace for one year.

Jetoo Lall appealed, and his appeal was received by the Joint Magistrate of Monghyr Mr. Samuell's, who not being empowered to hear appeals sent the petition to the Magistrate, Mr. Magrath, who was then in camp. The Magistrate ordered the case to be brought before him on the next sittings of the Court; no notice was given to the appellant of the day of the hearing of the appeal, and it does not appear that the order passed by the Magistrate fixing the case for the next sittings was giving the appellant a reasonable time. The case having been heard, the Magistrate enhanced the sentence to rigorous imprisonment for six months and to pay a fine of Rs. 100, and in default of payment to be rigorously imprisoned for another six months.

It is the duty of the Appellate Court to fix a reasonable time within which the party or his Counsel or authorized Agent might appear. See Section 278 of the Criminal Procedure Code. To that Section a provision has been added that in refusing to admit appeal the sentence should not be enhanced. It does appear whether the Court decided to reject the appeal, but we must suppose that the Magistrate had in his mind the intention of hearing the appeal, and therefore he ought to have given notice to the appellant under Section 279 and 280 of the Criminal Procedure Code.

No notice was given to the appellant, and he did not appear. It seems to us the Magistrate did not act according to law and his order must be set aside and if the appellant had now asked that his appeal be heard by the present Magistrate we should have directed the Magistrate to hear the appeal. But as Mr. Ghose on behalf of the petitioner has stated that he does not desire the appeal to be sent to the Magistrate, we must let the conviction of the first Court stand. I am bound to add that the case discloses indications of great irregularity and indiscretion on the part of the Magistrate, but we do not think it necessary to enter any further into this matter.

Mr. Justice Jackson has drawn the picture very mildly. The enormity of the wrong done by the Magistrate is portrayed in somewhat vivid colors in the petition of the prisoner. Should the case rest here? Will the Government take no notice of it? What was the meaning of Mr. Ghose's remark that his instructions were not to press for a hearing by another court? Did it imply want of confidence in the Mofussil courts? It looks like it. We hope Sir Ashley Eden will sift the whole thing to the bottom.

WE HOPE the state of the Blochmann Memorial Fund, started by some leading men of the Mahomedan community, will be a warning to the sanguine spirits, who are too forward to set on foot memorial schemes whenever men of some mark die. They forget that it is not every man of mark who deserves a public memorial, and that indiscriminate movements of this kind serve only to deprive the honor of its real value. When again they fail to raise the necessary fund, the honor they seek to render turns out to be a positive dishonor. Would the reader believe it that the Blochmann Memorial Committee have not been able to raise more than the magnificent sum of Rs.350? We heard the other day that the Monro Memorial Committee of Jessore have not been able to collect more than Rs. 500. If the testimonializing nuisanee does not abate Mr. Whitley Stokes should intervene and restrain the mischievous hands of the busy and fussy men, whose ambition propels them to get up movements of this kind.

BETTER LATE THAN NEVER. Bombay has held its public meeting against the remission of the Cotton duties. We have neither time nor space this week to notice the meeting at length, but from the hurried glance we have been able to give to the proceedings we are in a position to say that the meeting was worthy of the com-

mercial capital of India. The *Times of India* thus notices it :

The public meeting on Saturday was a signal success, and well worthy of the important question that called our citizens together ; for it was no sentimental grievance, but a grave wrong, that induced the protest which now goes forward to the British House of Commons from the inhabitants of Bombay. It was natural that the Europeans, connected as they are either as officials with Government or as merchants with Manchester, should have kept aloof, but we think the meeting lost nothing of its interest on that account. Indeed, the ability shown by the native gentlemen in their speeches, and in their power of argument, coupled with their moderation of tone, may well lead the Secretary of State to consider whether it will not be necessary for the Supreme Government to follow the action of the Bombay Government in doing all in their power to restrict public meeting, and to place free speech under the same restrictions as our once free native press. The natives of India have heretofore been considered as politically dumbs but dumb animals have feelings, and the education furnished or fostered by Government has made that dumb voice articulate ; and it will soon be a question whether it be kind to India or wise for Great Britain to continue that education, if it is to be accompanied by acts of manifest injustice. In 1876 Lord Salisbury said, "It would indeed be criminal in us if we were to sacrifice Indian for English interests ;" but what is the extent of the crime when that sacrifice is made at a time when India is suffering from deficit, debt, fresh and oppressive taxation, famine, and war ? And if the natives are to be educated to know right from wrong, and taught how to express their feelings, how long will it be safe to allow them free speech ?

Further :

The meeting was presided over by Sir Mungulds Nathoobhoy, whose health has prevented him from taking of late that active part in public matters which brought him so frequently and so prominently before the public twenty years ago. His presence at the meeting shows the very general interest felt in this question by the native community. The first speech, after the formal one of proposing the chairman, was that of the Hon. Morarjee Gocoldas, and displayed great ability ; the tone throughout was thoroughly loyal, and there was not a word at which the most vehement Manchester man could take offence. But at the same time it was thoroughly convincing, and stated with remarkable clearness the fallacy of the argument adopted by the Manchester people that their interests demand the repeal of this duty. We commend his speech to the careful perusal of those who think this remission of cotton duties to be at all required in the interests of Manchester. He was followed by Mr. Nanabhoy Byramjee, who, in a forcible speech, supported by facts and figures the position taken in the resolution that the remission could not be justified by the state of the finances or by the principles of political economy. Mr. Nowrozjee Furdoonjee succeeded, and produced a very marked effect by quoting from a letter by Mr. Donald Graham, a partner in a firm which as he said imported one-fourth of all the piece-goods that come to Bombay. This letter was addressed to Lord Lytton in 1876, and expressed a decided opinion that Manchester goods paid only a fair duty. After Mr. Perozeshaw Mehta had read the protest, Mr. Kassinath T. Telang proposed the next resolution in a speech which was perhaps the best of the meeting, and was particularly effective from its fluent delivery without note of any kind. He spoke in terms of the highest praise of Lord Lytton's ability as a writer and an orator, but deprecated his attempts at statesmanship, which he thought best characterised by His Excellency's own lines in one of his charming Fables in Song—

> "Height measures he in depth, seeks peace in strife,
> And call's all this the poetry of life.

He referred to the arbitrary power which enables the Viceroy to override his Council and he supported also a criticism of Mr. Nowrozjee's on Lord Lytton's undignified reply to the deputation from the British Association in Calcutta, which the speaker characterised as "unjust, uncharitable, ungenerous and unmerited." This motion was seconded by Mr. Martin Wood; who stated that he could not have supported the protest had it been based on protection. Mr. Rughunath Narayen Khote in an amusing speech proposed the resolution that the petition should be sent through Mr. Henry Fawcett, whose name elicited great applause. Mr. Cumrooden Tyabjee, in seconding this resolution thought that Mr. Fawcett besides being called the honourable member for Hackney, should also be styled the honorary member for India, The appointment of a committee and the usual votes of thanks to the Sheriff and the Chairman terminated the proceedings which lasted upwards of two hours, the interest continuing throughout

The unanimity of Indian opinion on the subject is singular. The Government, flushed with its majority, may pooh pooh it, but can it arrest the qualms of conscience if it has one?

MADRAS has taken the lead in petitioning Parliament against the misappropriation of the famine insurance fund by the Government of India. After quoting the pledges given by Government in imposing the License Tax for its due appropriation to the famine insurance fund the petitioners remark :

That your Memorialists have carefully considered the condition of the public finances, as explained in the last Financial statement, and while admitting the exceptional difficulties with which the Indian Government has had to contend, through the further depreciation in the value of silver, they cannot allow that it was necessary or politic for the Government to break faith with the public, or to depart from a famine policy the proceeds of the License Tax to meet current losses which had so much to recommend it by appropriating by exchange; losses which there is much reason for believing have been aggravated by the unsatisfactory way in which the financial arrangements of the Home and Indian Governments are conducted, and for which, it is only right to bear in mind, the tax-payers of India are in no way responsible,. Your Memorialists, indeed, do not hesitate to affirm that any Bank or public Company which ignored solemn pledges given to its shareholders in the same way that the Government of India has broken faith with its tax payer would forfeit all claim to public confidence.

The petitioners thus conclude :

That your Memorialist, in the name of the trading and agricultural classes of this Presidency, protest against the great and manifest injustice of being further burdened with a tax, the proceeds of which are avowedly not being applied, as was promised, to the creation of a famine fund, but to the general requirements of the Empire, for which the levying of a special class tax, exempting highly paid government servants and well to do professional men, (for whom the Mercantile, Trading and poorer orders of the community are made to pay as well as for themselves,) is an exercise of the powers of Government which your Memorialists, being British subjects, never expected to experience. That your Memorialists are deeply impressed with the conviction that the present condition of the finances of India calls for the grave consideration of your honourable House ; the uncertainty that prevails in connection with the financial policy of the Government of India together with invidious and unequal distribution of taxation which characterises that policy, having, your Memorialists regret to believe, done much towards creating popular discontent and shaking public confidence in the financial stability of the Indian Empire.

Apropos the above we will quote the following from Lord Lytton's reply to the British Indian Association on the Cotton duties regarding famine taxation :

"You say in your address that the present financial condition of India is critical ; that a terrible famine has recently been ravaging the country; "and yet that at this time the Government has deemed it its duty to impose additional taxation to the extent of about a million and a half." Gentlemen, you have overestimated the amount of the additional taxation which the Government of India has deemed it its duty to impose. This however, is not a matter of much importance ; but it is, to me at least, a matter for much surprise and regret, to find that, in commenting with disapproval on the action taken by the Government of India in what you justly term "a time of national tribulation" you have entirely failed to recognise the fact that the sole purpose of the additional taxation, you complain of, was the preservation of the lives of the people of India from the effects of famine. Whether the particular measures adopted for that purpose were, or were not, judiciously devised, is a question fairly open to unprejudiced discussion. But the motive and purpose of those measures are certainly not open to doubt. Whatever may be the faults or shortcomings of this Government, its action in the matter, to which your address makes reference, was dictated by the sincerest and most anxious desire to give to the people of India the greatest protection which could practically be provided for them against the calamities of future famines. To insinuate the contrary is to insinuate a calumny."

Now, we ask, which is a greater calumny ? To have taken the money for one purpose and to have spent it for another, as Lord Lytton's Government has done, or to have stated the bare fact as the British Indian Association did that the imposition of the tax when the people had just emerged from the horror's of a famine was a proof of the critical condition of the Finances. We hope the M. P. who will present the Madras petition to Parliament will put the above utterances of Lord Lytton in juxta position. May we humbly enquire whether Lord Lytton was aware of the fact that the famine insurance fund had disappeared, when he thus indignantly rebuked the British Indian Association for making reference to it?

WE HAVE received from the Press Commissioner certain papers regarding the appointment of Medical College Students as Assistant Surgeons. It was suggested by Government that its resolution declaring that a diploma of the Medical College shall give a *prima facie* right to the candidate for employment in the Medical service should be rescinded. The College Council recorded several minutes, some of which we transcribe below. Thus Dr. Charles says :

"I think that every student at present at the Medical College has a right to Government employ. He entered on a course of medical study with a distinct promise held out to him. Any change of the system cannot be made retrospective, and can only come into force when the last student at the College has signified his intention of accepting or declining an appointment in the public service. I look upon the order of the Government as final, and, however much I regret the action this will exert on medical education at a time it specially requires fostering and assistance, I think notice should be given at once to prevent other students coming to the College on the strength of this promise. Beyond this, little action can be taken for the next five years. Ultimately I fancy, these appointments will have to be competed for by examination ; but it would be premature now to enter into details for such a competitive examination.

Dr. Smith, the Principal of the Medical College says :

I fully concur in the remarks submitted by Drs. Palmer and Chandra as to the necessity of giving as early notice as possible of the changes now contemplated.

As regards the manner in which effect can best be given to the present orders of the Government of India, I think that, by and bye, when the time comes for selection of candidates for Government service, such selection should be made, not on the strength of mere written examinations but also by subjecting the candidates to thorough tests of practical professional aptitude and skill.

Probably as good a plan as any would be to have a specially appointed examining Board (not necessarily members of the College staff) to select the men best qualified for the kind of work required of them by Government.

I hope I may be allowed to add that I fear the present resolution of the Government of India *will have* a distinctly "adverse effect on the spread of the study of surgery and medicine." I believe, although I cannot prove it, that it will tend greatly to diminish the number of students of the primary class in this College, and that thus it will act detrimentally on the interests of the general public. The only way in which I think this could be rectified is the following.

The Government has accordingly decided that from the 1st January 1884, the number of appointments of Assistant Surgeons will be regulated by the requirements of the Medical Department, and that from that date no student of the Medical College, Calcutta, who may pass the qualifying examination, will be entitled to admission to the service as a matter of right. The Lieutenant Governor thinks that it would be premature at present to say that the appointments of Assistant Surgeons will be thrown open to competition, and to prescribe the limit of age for candidates, as proposed by the Committee on Medical Expenditure. For our part we think the competitive examination would be a decided public advantage when the compulsory rule of service is rescinded.

With regard to the enforcement of the 25 years' rule we submit that it ought not to have been allowed retrospective effect. There are many students, who would not have entered the College, if they had the remotest suspicion that they would be victimized by it. The rule had hitherto remained a dead letter, and why should it be suddenly given retrospective effect to. Strictly speaking the rule of 25 years of age is not applicable to medical college students, inasmuch as many of them can hardly expect to pass before they attain that age, remembering the double academic courses they have to undergo. But if the rule were made prospective, future students would know what to do, but to give a retrospective effect to the rule is to inflict a serious injury upon many innocent students. We hope the Government will reconsider this matter.

WAR TELEGRAMS.

(From the Press Commissioner.)

Recent news received from Seistan shows no change in affairs there, but disturbances hamper and murder of cousin of Ibrahim Khan Governor are reported.

Yacoob Khan reached Jugdulluck on the sixth and is expected at British Camp on eighth. He has left behind his Cavalry and brings on infantry escort only.

Major Cavagnari was to proceed this morning the 8th, with, escort of tenth Hussars and Guides Cavalry to meet Yacoob Khan at frontier of district now occupied by British forces. General Sir Sam Browne and staff were to meet him at the end of the line of troops to be frontier alone both sides of road, all availble troops to be on duty and line both sides of road for distance of two and half miles from Yacoob's Tent heavy battery to fire salute of twenty one guns from the ridge.

Yacoob Khan has arrived at Gundamuck and announced his arrival to Viceroy and expressed his desire for an establishment of friendly relations.

From Alikhel a havildar and three Sepoys of the Puttiala contingent were attacked on the afternoon of the sixth while returning from Thull to Chapri, and seem to have made a stout resistance. The Havildar and one Sepoy were killed, another wounded. Enquiry being made regarding offenders supposed to be Waziris, also regarding conduct of local levies in charge of road. Four hundred Khatak labourers have reached Thull for work on the new road.

From Peshwar news comes that on a complaint from the Kho bianis, the Lamghanis, and others in Kohistan and Naugarhar, some of the troops of the Amir of Kabul have been located at Pushta Mir Alam in Jigdalak; but they have not yet had any fighting with the British Forces.

A brother of Sardar Faiz Mohammed Khan, Ghilzai, with 2 000 irregulars, has come to Lamghan. He kills or plunders those who submitted to Government through Sardar Wali Muhammed Khan, burning and destroying their fortresses. He has arrested some influential men and sent them to Kabul. Sardar Wali Muhammed Khan asked them to defend themselves and their territories, and told them that Government will soon send them assistance, but they replied that they did not want assistance either from him or the British, and that he should discontinue his correspondence with them.

There is a rumour that the Amir of Kabul held a meeting in which all the Khans and Sardars of Afghanistan, numbering about 500, were present. He told them that the British Government had issued a proclamation to the effect that their enemy was Amir Sher Ali Khan and none else, and that they would not interfere with the Sardars and people of Afghanistan.

The following details from the Kurrum Valley have been received:

Eight men of the Muktil tribe have lately attacked a number of British soldiers at Gee Pakha China in Kurrum. Three of the men were killed and the rest were captured and placed in confinement. Some days ago a party of the Muktils attacked the Turis when the latter captured one of the assistants and cut off his head and laid it before Mr. Christie. The officer presented Rs. 40 in Turi line in the head The Turis are ever since going about in search of other Muktils and Mangals. The Turis will do much service to Government for the love of money.

It is said that Mullah Adakkar has excited the Musazairs, the Mangals and the Doh Meshts to raise a disturbance.

There are two parties in Kurrum now—one composed of the Turis and the half of the Jajis, otherwise known as Seonis, and the other of the Sobris.

The Maliks of these tribes say that if the Amir of Cabul engages not to send tyrants to rule their districts, they will side with him when fighting takes place between his and the British troops; otherwise they will be obliged to support the cause of the English. The people of the Bangash and the other Chamkani tribes are in accord with them. Although the Chamkanis do not like the English—and since the British Government sent an expedition against them. They do not permit the soldiers of the British force to enter their territory to make any purchases, still they have joined the Turis in the above resolution.

The Masazais, the hill Wazirs, the Sah Meshts, the Mangals, the Muktils and half of the Jejis, all forming one faction. Kurrum under the appellation of Tar Gundi, have been excited by Mulla Adakkar to prepare to wage war against the English, and is understood they will create a disturbance. They were not hostile towards the English before. No crime takes place on the borders of Kurrum in which they are not concerned.

The British authorities have not dismissed the Turis or the Jajis and the information which affirmed this before has proved to be incorrect. The men offer their arms for sale of their own accord.

Letters from Swat state that Sahibzada Mian Gul has returned from Barwa in Jandol to Mihyar in the Bajor territory and a large number of Volunteers collected round the Sahibzada. About 300 Mujahidin (warriors) lately presented themselves before him, and he has forwarded them on to Cabul. It is believed that Sahibjada will also soon proceed to Cabul. The people of Buner, who had gone to Cabul when Amir Sher Ali Khan was alive, have now been permitted by his son and successor, Amir Yakub Khan to return to their homes.

The Khan of Ismar has married his daughter to Mian Gul. The younger brother of Mian Gul is bent upon the murder of Mian Gul. The Khan of Swat is dissatisfied with Mian Gul, as he advances his claims to the chiefship of the country contrary to the principles of his late father, who never asserted himself beyond being a religious character. Mian Gul desires to collect land revenue from the people of Swat, but the Swatis refuse to submit to his demands.

MONEY MARKET.

(*May* 10, 1879.)

GOVERNMENT LOANS.

4	Per Cent. Promissory Notes	Rs.	91	8 *a*	91	14
4½	Per Cent. of 1870 (1885).....	,,	95	0 *a*	95	8
4½	Per Cent. of 1871 (1881)	,,	94	0 *a*		
4½	Per Cent. of (Trans.) of 1872 (1879)	Reduced to 4 p. ct.				
4½	Per Cent. of 1878 (1893).....	,,	96	12 *a*	97	0
5½	Per Cent. of 1859-60(1879)	,,	Nominal.			

GOVERNMENT DEBENTURES OF 1867.

5	Per Cent. for 15 years (1882)..	Rs.	100	4 *a*	100	8

CALCUTTA MUNICIPAL DEBENTURES.

6	Per Cent. of 1864 (1884)	... Rs.	106	0 *a*	106	8
6	Per Cent. of 1865 (1885)	,,	106	8 *a*	107	0
6	Per Cent. of 1866 (1886)	,,	107	0 *a*	108	0
6	Per Cent. of 1867 (1887)	,,	108	0 *a*	109	0
6	Per Cent. of 1870 (1890)	,,	110	0 *a*	110	8
6	Per Cent. of 1872 (1892)	,,	110	8 *a*	111	0
5	Per Cent. of 1878 (1908)	,,	99	0 *a*	100	0

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS.

MOFUSSIL SUBSCRIPTIONS	Rs.	A.	P
S. Bulakrishna Das Naidu Esq., Ranigunta.....	10	0	6
F. H. Pellew Esq, C. S. Dacca	6	14	0
Bombay Native General Library, Bombay.....	13	4	0
Moulvi Tufazul Hossain, Bouleah..	13	4	0
Nunja Raj Wadyer Bahadoor, Fort Mysore.....	18	2	0
T. M. Kirkwood Esq., C. S. Mozufferpore.....	13	4	0
Burdwan Road Cess Committee.....	2	8	0
T. Pattaviram Pillay Esq., Trichinopoly.....	13	4	0
Thakoor Kally Sunker Sahoy, Ranchee.....	13	4	0
Baboo Makhonlal Mojoomdar, Jhargram.....	6	8	0
,, Nobin Chunder Mittra, Chuprah.....	13	4	0
,, Bhogobutty Churn Mookerjee, Arrah.....	13	4	0
,, Radhasam Sircar, Cuttack.....	20	0	0
,, Prosunno Coomar Roy, Gur-Bhobanypore...	6	10	0
,, Sarut Chunder Sandyal Serajgunge.....	20	0	0
,, Annodapersad Datt, Dinagepore.....	10	0	0
,, Kadar Nath Dutt, Nurail..	11	8	0
,, Govindpersad Das, Dinagepore.....	20	0	0
,, Hurry Coomar Roy Chowdry, Purneah...	10	0	0
,, Sree Nath Roy, Lucknow	13	4	0
,, Hurro Chunder Roy, Jarrah	20	0	0
,, Shib Chunder Dutt, Sylhet.....	6	10	0
,, Krishto Persad Chowdry, Moorudpore.....	6	10	0
,, Chunder Coomar Roy, Futtikchery...	10	0	0
,, Monoburry Lol Shome, Chinsurah.....	2	0	0
,, Hurrish Chunder Ghose, Tikree..	13	4	0
,, Ashootosh Bose, Darjiling.....	6	10	0
,, Roghoo Nath Sahoy, Shahabad	13	4	0
,, Issan Chunder Kunar, Ghatsali.....	3	4	0
,, Baboo Ram Sahoy, Bareilly.....	13	4	0
,, Moti Lal Chatterjee, Allahabad.....	20	0	0
,, Guru Gobinda Das, Dinagepore	6	10	0
,, Keder Nath Banerjee, Dy. P. M. Atgram ..	3	8	0
,, Bhoopendro Nath Dey, Tumlook.....	10	0	0
,, Gopal Chundra Chackravartty, Unao.....	13	8	0
,, Kanty Chunder Mookerjee, Sylhet.....	3	6	0

ERATUM.

For Syed Mohamed Ali, Bhaugulpore Rs. 6 read Rs 6 10 0

Government Notifications

Calcutta Gazette,—*May* 7, 1879.

GENERAL.—Baboo Bhugwan Chunder Bose, Deputy Magistrate and Depnty Collector, is allowed leave for six months, under Section 3, Supplement F to the Civil Leave Code, in extension of that granted to him under orders dated the 23rd October last.

Mr. E. McL. Smith, Officiating Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, employed on settlement work in the Sonthal Pergunnahs, is posted to Jamatara in that district.

Lieutenant J. F. Rivett-Carnac, Officiating Assistant Commissioner, Jamatara, Southal Pergunnahs, is transfered to Doomka in that district.

Mr. W. B. Martin, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Dooka, Sonthal Pergunnahs, is appointed to have charge of the Jamoose division of the Monghyr district.

Mr. S. C. Hampton, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, in charge of the Jamoose division of the Monghyr district is appointed to have charge of the Rampore Hat division of the Moorshedabad district.

Mr. C. J. S Faulder, Assistant Magistrate and Collector, in charge of the Rampore Hat division of the Moorshedabad district, is posted to the Sudder station of that district.

Moulvi Dilwar Hossein Ahmed, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Chittagong, is vested with the powers of a Collector, under Act X of 1870, in the district of Chittagong.

Mr. A. A, Wace, Officiating Magistrte and Deputy Collector Howrah, is vested with the powers of aCollector, under Act X of 1870, in the district of Howrah.

—Baboo Promotho Nauth Bose, Officiating Sub-Deputy Collector, Julpigoree, it allowed leave without pay for three months, under Section 10, Supplement F to the Civil Leave Code, in extension of that granted to him under orders of the 17th February 1879.

The privilege leave for two months and eleven days granted to Mr. W. H. Page, C. S., under orders of the 1st February last, is commuted into special leave for six months from 30th January 1879, under Sections 31 and 47 of the revised Civil Leave Code.

Mr. Page is allowed subsidiary leave for thirteen days' under Section 34 of tha Code, with effect from the 17th January 1879.

Baboo Denonath Mookerjee Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Hazareebagh, is vested with the powers of a Collector, under Act X (B.C.) of 1871, in that district.

Mr. R. Carstairs, Assistant Magistrate and Collector, in charge of the Serampore Division of the Hooghly District, is vested with the powers of aCollector, under Act X of 1870 for the purpose of acquiring the land required for the burial of nightsoil at Kounaghur in the district of Hooghly.

Mr. R. H. Greaves, C.S, reported his departure from India on furlough on the 25th ultimo.

Mr. G. C. Scence, a Judge of the Court of SmallCauses, Calcutta, is allowed furlough to Europe for fifteen months, under section 21 of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from the 15th July 1879, together with subsidiary leave for fourteen days.

Moulvie Motiullah, Deputy Collector, Jessore, on leave, having resumed charge of his duties on the forenoon of the 10th February last, the unexpired portion of the leave granted to him under orders of the 24th December 1878 is cancelled.

Mr. C. Jennins, Assistant Inspector-General, Government Railway Police, reported his departure from India on furlough on the 7th instant.

Mr. A. Blair, District Superintendent of Police, Cuttack, is allowed furlough for one year, four months, and twenty-two days, under section 21, Chapter IV of the Civil Leave Code, together with subsidiary leave for fifteen days, under section 34 of the Code, with effect from the 15th May 1879, or any subsequent date on which he may be relieved.

Mr F. A. Dawnson, Assistant Superintendent of Police, in charge of the District Police of Pooree, is appointed to act as District Superintendent of Police, Cuttack, during the absence on leave, of Mr. A. Blair, or until further orders.

Mr. V. H. Roberts, Assistant Superintendent of Police, is appointed, until further orders, to have charge of the District Police of Pooree.

This cancels the orders of the 10th ultimo appointing Mr. Roberts to act as District Superintendent of Police Furreedpore.

Mr. J. B. Birch Assistant Superintendent of Police, on leave, is appointed to act as District Superintendent of Police, Furreedpore, during the absence, on leave, of Mr. T. G. Charles, or until futher orders.

JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT— Baboo Bhoobun Mohun Soor Officiating Sub-Deputy Collector, Jahanabad, Burdwan i vested with the powers of a Magistrate of the Third Class.

Baboo Gobindo Chunder Dao, B. L, is appointed to act as a Moonsif at Bogra during the absence, on leave, of Baboo Juggobbundhoo Gangooly, or until futher orders

Baboo Mohendro Nath Mitter, B. L. First Mooshif of Mohesrakha in Hoogly, having returned to duty on the forenoon of the 25th ultimo, the unexpired portion of the leave granteds to him under orders dated the 12th December 1878 is cancelled.

Advertisements.

IN THE PRESS.

BISHOOCHIKA BEJOYA; with cases repertory and a map illustrating the Ponte from India to Britain—A treatise on Asiatic cholera in Bengalee.

JUST OUT.

Illustrated Family Guide—Epitome of domestic medicine in Bengalee; bound in cloth; Price 1 Re. postage ½ anna.

2ND EDITION.

To be had at DATTA'S Laboratory. HOMŒOPATHIC

No. 312, Chitpore Road; Battalah, Calcutta,

☞ *Illustrated Price List with Calender of* 1879, *price* 2 *annas. Free to the customers only postage* ½ *anna.* Terms Easy. Cash.

B. K. DATTA,—Homœo. Practitioner.

NOTICE.

Wanted for the District of Lakhimpur, Assam, a person qualified to undertake the duties of a Sub-Deputy Collector. A thorough knowledge of Surveying, and a fair knowledge of English indispensable, salary Rs. 100 (hundred) per mensem. A person distinguishing himself by probity, and capacity, will have a fair chance of rising higher in the Executive Department.

Apply to the Deputy Commissioner, Debrugarh.

WANTED.

For the Government Printing Press, Aligarh, a Native Head Clerk or foreman. A thorough knowledge of printing indispensable. Salary Rs. 100 per mensem.

Vacancies exist also for a Reader and Examiner, Compositors, Pressmen and Binders.

Apply with copies of testimonials to Superintendent Government Workshop, Aligarh. Replies will not be sent to rejected applications.

Aligarh,
19*th April* 1879.

NOTICE.

Dr. M. M. Bose, M. D. L. R. C. P. &c,. Graduate of New York Homœopathic Medical College, can be consulted daily from 7 to 8 A. M., at 18, Mott's Lane, Wellington Square.

BEST SETARAMPORE.

COKE AND COAL.

Pure Coke, not watered nor adulterated with burnt coal. Per maund ... ... As. 8
Burnt Coal, not watered 7½

Cooly and cart hire to purchaser's house 7 to 12 as. according to distance. A cart carries 20 mds. Smaller quantities may be bought, but the cartage will be the same.

W. L. ATKINSON & CO.,
5, Old Court House Street.

FEVER MIXTURE.

Cures the worst forms of

MALARIOUS FEVER.
REMITTENT FEVER.
INTERMITTENT FEVER.

Ague.

This mixture is largely used in Calcutta and the surrounding districts and never fails to effect a radical cure of any of the above Fevers, even in the worst cases, if proper attention be paid to the instructions accompanying each bottle.

Price per bottle, Re. 1-2 @ 1-8.

For convenience of transit by post, this mixture is made in a *concentrated* form with clear instructions for diluting. It is particularly recommended to tea planters, missionaries, and others residing in the interior, both on account of its admirableproperties, as a curative and preventative Agent and of its extreme cheapness. A large sized bottle of concentrated mixture will make *one quart* of Fever Mixture.

Per bottle, Re. 1-0 @ 1-8.

Sold only by J. CORFIELD & Co.

SPLEEN MIXTURE.

Corfield's Spleen Mixture has a very large sale in lower Bengal, and is approved by numerovs Medfcal men who are constantly prescribing it.

A few doses are sufficient to reduce an enlargement, and if the mixture be persevered in for a short time, it will effect a permanent cure.

Per bottle Re. 1-0 @ 1-8.

This mixture is also made in a concentrated form for canvenience of transit by post.

Full directions in English and Bengali accompany each bottle.

Extract of Bael for Dysentery, Diarhœa, &c.

Per bottle, Re. 1-8 @ 2-8.

AMMONIATED SOLUTION OF QUININE.

An absolute specific for Influenza or cold in the head.

Per bottle, Rs. 1-8 @ 2-8.

Quinine & Iron Tonic.

The best medicine to take after fever or any other debilitating disease. It excites the appetite and puts the patient in strength in an incredibly short space of time per bottle Rs. 2.

J. CORFIELD & Co.
CHEMISTS, WHOLESALE AND RETAIL,
11, Old Court House Street, Calcutta.

CALCUTTA TO DARJEELING.

GOVERNMENT TONGA AND EXPRESS LUGGAGE SERVICE.

A service has been established in connection with the Northern Bengal State Railway on the following terms :—

Passengers.

Two Tongas each way daily are available on application to Mr. Spencer Robinson, Tonga Agent, Kurseong.

Each Tonga will take three passengers at the following rate :

Between Siliguri and Darjeeling	... Rs. 25	each passenger.
Ditto ditto and Kurseong	... „ 15	ditto.
Ditto Kurseong and Darjeeling	... „ 10	ditto.

Each passenger will be allowed 12 seers of personal luggage on condition that it can be placed in the box under the seat. A passenger paying single fare will on no account be allowed to take more than the allowance of 12 seers.

When available special Tongas for not more than two persons can be engaged for Rs. 60, and the following amount of luggage allowed:—

If one passenger travels	...	Mds. 3
„ two passengers travel	...	... 1½

Passengers are allowed to halt at Kurseong for 16 hours; if the Tonga is detained for more than that time, a charge of Rs. 2 per hour will be levied.

To meet the convenience of travellers who wish to send their luggage ahead of them, a pony baggage cart will leave Siliguri station and Darjeeling daily at 10 A.M.

Packages sent as " Express Luggage " must not exceed one maund in weight; they may be expected to be taken between Darjeeling and Calcutta in 50 hours and are charged for at the rate of Rs. 5-11 per maund.

" Express Luggage " from Siliguri to Darjeeling will be taken at Rs. 4-8 per maund. Packages can be booked through as " Express Luggage " and paid for at Sealdah, Siliguri, Kurseong and Darjeeling.

When baggage carts are available, a whole cart may be hired at the following rates, the full load being 8 maunds, and each passenger taken at 1½ maunds.

Between Siliguri and Darjeeling	..	Rs. 35
Ditto ditto and Kurseong	...	... 21
Ditto Kurseong and Darjeeling	...	... 14

All complaints to be made to the Engineer-in-Chief, Northern Bengal State Railway, Saidpore, until 1st June; Kurseong, from June to 1st December.

J. G. LINDSAY, LIEUT. COL. R.E.
Engineer-in-Chief.

Saidpur, the 25th March, 1879.

BOSE PRESS.

No. 309, Bowbazar Street, Calcutta,

Undertakes to execute printing works in English, Bengali and Nagri on very moderate charges.

G. C. BOSE & Co.,—*Managing Proprietors.*

NOTICE.

Baboo Khetter Nauth Bhattacharjee (late of the Public Works and Road Cess Department) will undertake to design and superintend the construction of Buildings and to act as an Engineer and Surveyor in the partition of House and landed properties. Communications to be addressed to him at 70/1 Sookea's Street, Calcutta.

WONDERFUL REMEDY FOR PILES.

An excellent newly discovered Patent Medicine for Piles and for all sorts of complaints arising therefrom, sold in bottles @ Re.1-8 exclusive of Postage. To be had at Messrs. R. Scott Thomson and Co.'s Dispensary, Messrs. Chuckerbutty Sen's and Co., Imperial Druggist Hall and Doctor Baboo Opender Chunder Bose, Mirzapore, Machooabazar Street No. 85, and also at the premisses of Babu K. P. Chatterjea, No. 13, Jhamapooker Lane. K. P. C.

DISTRICT CHARITABLE SOCIETY.

The Residence of the Honorary Secretary to the above Society is at No. 18 Lall Bazar Street.

The Society is in urgnt need of funds and contributions will be gratefully received and acknowledged by

J. LAMBERT,
Honorary Secretary.

10th January 1879.

By appointment,
To HIS HIGHNESS THE MAHARAJAH DHEERAJ OF BURDWAN.

C. K. SEN & CO.

KOBIRAJ DRUGGISTS AND CHEMISTS,

Calcutta,

AYUR VEDA MEDICAL HALL
No. 146, Lower Chitpore Road.
C. K. SEN & CO'S

Dantashodhana Churna or celebrated Dentifrice.

The regular use of this powder is sure to cure all diseases of the gums, cures ulceration, prevents bleeding, sweetens the breath, perfectly cleanses the teeth of tartar and all other noxious matters and renders them pearl white.

Price per Box 8 *Annas. Postage &c.,* 8 *Annas*
4 Boxes can be sent by the above postage.
C. K. SEN. & Co. 's
CURE FOR HYDROCELE

If the disease be of one years standing, the use of one box only of this medicine is sure to cure. If it be of long standing, the regular use of the medicines for a longer period will cure 90 cases out of 100, and it is warranted to remove all complications such as fever, debility &c. however long they may have existed. It also restores the virile powers which have been lost on account of the malady.

Price per box Rs. 2, postage & 8 annas.
4 Boxes can be sent by the above postage.
C. K. SEN. & CO.'S

Kuntalabrishya or World-famed Hair Restorer.

The regular use of this invaluable oil most certainly cures baldness and prevents the hair from falling off or turning prematurely grey. It cures diseases of the head and brain and strengthens weak and failing eyesight. It possesses a very sweet odour.

Price per Bottle Re. 1. *Postage &c.,* 10 *As.*
2 Bottles can be sent by the above postage.
C. K. SEN & CO. 'S

Superior & Genuine Makaradhwaja.

This is one of the most potent medicines of the Hindu Pharmacopœa, never fails to produce the most satisfactory results in cases of debility from whatever cause arising seminal, constitutional or otherwise. It acts like a charm in typhus or typhoid fevers, chronic diarrhœa, habitual, constipation, gleat, gonorrhœa, spermatorrhœa, female complaints after delivery, weakness of the brain from excessive mental labor, and in all complaints to which the persons of sedentary habits are especially subject.

Price 7 grains per Rupee or Rs. 24 per Tolah.
Postage 4 As.

All the above preparations are perfectly innocuous and may be taken by persons of all sexes and ages with perfect safety.

BINOD LAL SEN, KOBIRAJ,
Manager

The Oriental Miscellany.

A monthly MAGAZINE published by Messrs. H. C. Ganguly & Co., 19, Mangoe Lane, Calcutta, Annual subscription Rs. 5.

THE ORIGINAL HARDWARE ESTABLISHMENT OF INDIA.

T. E. THOMSON & CO.

9, ESPLANADE ROW, CALCUTTA.

IMPORTERS OF
HAND PUMPS.

Cast-Iron Colonial Pumps, No. 93.

No.	0	1	2	3	4	5	6
Rs.	16,	17,	20,	23,	27-8,	32	36, each
Price of Piping per foot ... As.	...	12,	Re. 1	...	...		1-4
Gallons Water, Per minute ...		4,	6,	8,	10	12,	13, 15.

Hand Pumps, No. 83.

	2½	3	3½	4 in.
	Rs. 40,	55,	65,	75 each.
Price of Piping for do.	Re. 1,	1,	1-8,	1-8 p. ft.
Gallons Water, per minute	12	15,	18,	20.

The above Pumps are simply lift,, and will draw water from a depth of 25 feet. We fit them (for convenience of constituents) with pipe of any length to that distance.

Galvanized Wrought-Iron Portable Pumps.

No. 113, fitted on 3 legs, with 20 feet India-Rubber Suction Hose ... ... Rs. 130 each.

No. 219, Pump on Barrow, fitted with 25'2" Suction and 30' 1¼" Delivery Hose .... Rs. 260 0

Galvanized Wrought-Iron Barge Pumps.

No. 115, 6 inch 6 feet, 6 inch under spout Rs. 115 each.

Watering Carts, Patent Watering Cart, mounted on Iron Wheels, to carry 95 Gallons	Rs.	275 0
Patent Watering Cart, with Pump and Rubber Suction Hose attached	„	350 0
Brooke's Fire Engine in Tank, with 25 feet Suction and 50 feet Delivery Hose, &c.	„	575 0
Fire Engine No. 214, complete with 25 feet 1¾ inch Suction and 50 feet Delivery Hose. &c.	„	800 0

T. E. Thomson & Co. have also in stock Garden Engines, Garden Syringes, Aquajects in Pail, Improved Water Barrows, Fountain Jets, and all kinds Garden implements and Tools.

10 per cent Discount off the above prices for Cash.

A SPLENDID OPENING FOR PRIVATE ENTERPRIZE,

For Sale, or lease, or Partnership.

A tract of Forest land partly cultivated, with virgin soil and abundance of water, situated in a healthy and populous locality within 30 miles of Shajihanpore Railway Station. Indigo, Cotton, Sugar-cane, Linseed &c., flourish luxuriantly. Unusually favorable for the manufacture of Indigo, Sugar, Castor-oil, Silk, Glass, Lac-die, or any thing else requiring consumption of fuel.

A small capital with a little enterprizing spirit, will secure to more than one an independent and honorable carreer.

Apply for particulars to

LANDLORD,
Delhi.

NORTHERN BENGAL STATE RAILWAY.

NOTICE.

Reduction of Ferry charge.

On and from 15th instant the Ferry charge for all goods carried at special rates, such as jute, Tobacco, Food Grain and Salt will be reduced to 9 pie per maund.

Traffic Superintendent's Office, Saidpur, 13th April, 1879.

By Order
G. M. DRURY
Traffic Supdt.

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F. W. BAKER & CO.

Drapers, Silk Mercers and Upholsterers.

BY SPECIAL APPOINTMENT TO

HIS EXCELLENCY THE VICEROY AND GOVERNOR GENERAL.

Beg to call attention to their splendid stock of goods which have been specially imported to meet the requirements of the Native Nobility and Gentry, and which having been purchased from the leading English and continental manufacturers, can be gauranteed as being the best procurable.

Silks, Satins and Velvets, Brocaded Silks and Satins, Silk Hosiery of all kinds, Silk Handkerchiefs and Scarves, Carpets of every description, Reps, Baizes Rugs, Cornices, Fringes, Oil-cloths, Brass Upholstery of all kinds &c. &c. &c.

MIRRORS! MIRRORS!

A choice and select assortment just to hand in richly gilt frames.

Sizes from 50 inches by 40, to 80 inches by 60.

Prices from Rs. 225 to Rs. 600 per pair.

INSPECTION SOLICITED.

F. W. BAKER & CO.,

9, Old Court House Street, Calcutta.

Branches at Mussorie, and Allahabad.

NORTH BRITISH AND MERCANTILE INSURANCE COMPANY.

ESTABLISHED 1809.

President.

HIS GRACE THE DUKE OF ROXBURGHE, K.T.

Vice-Presidents.

HIS GRACE THE DUKE OF SUTHERLAND, K.G.
HIS GRACE THE DUKE OF ABERCORN, K.G.

General Court of Directors.

Right Hon'ble Lord Lawrence, G.C.B., G.C.S.I., & P.C., Chairman.

Report by the Directors

PRESENTED TO THE

Sixty-eighth Annual General Meeting of the Company, Held at Edinburgh on Friday, 5th April 1878.

The Directors submit the following Report on the business done by the Company during the year which closed on the 31st December last :—

Life Business.

During the year 1877 there have been issued 1026 Policies, assuring £1,003.580, the new Premiums on which amount to £32,049 : 10 : 5.

The Claims which occurred during the year, including 10 Endowments, were 280 in number, arising under 341 Policies, and the sums which became payable on account of these amount with Bonus additions, to the sum of £299,863 : 10.: 6.

As will be seen from the State of Affairs annexed, the Life Assurance Fund now amounts to £2,711,876:11:7, being £105,446 : 17 : 10 above what it was on 31st December 1876. The whole of this fund is separately invested, and, by Act of Parliament, set aside to meet the claims under that Department of the Company's business.

After paying the Dividend, the Reserve Fund will amount to £794,576 : 19 : 11, and the Premium Reserve to £302,671, 8s. 5d., together amounting to £1,017,248 : 8 : 4. At 31st December 1876 these Funds amounted to £1,082,768 : 11 : 10, showing an increase this year of £14,479 : 16 : 6.

INDIAN BRANCH.

CHIEF OFFICE FOR INDIA.

1, HASTING STREET, CALCUTTA.

Notice.

AFGHAN EXPEDITION.

An extra rate of 3 guineas will be charged to Officers proceeding on active service into Afghanisthan.

General Agents : ROBERTS, MORGAN & CO., No. 1, Hastings Street, Calcutta.

No More Pains!!!

DARLINGTON'S

INFALLIBLE PAIN-CURER.

Warranted to cure pains of every description arising from whatever cause, on any part of the human frame. A certain cure for Pains in the Back, Lumbago, Pains in the Chest, Sore Throats, Coughs, Colds, Tightness of the Chest, Headache, Neuralgia, Colics, Rheumatism, Paralysis, Pains in the Groins, Contracted Joints, Gout, Swellings, Old Sores, Piles, Ringworm, Pimples, Freckles, or spots on the face, and Eruptions on the Skin.

Pains of every description have been cured by the outward application only of this medicine, when all the skill of the medical art has been tried without effect,

Per bottle Re. 1 ; Large size Rs. 2, packing & postage As. 8,

DARLINGTON & CO.

49, Dhurrumtollah-Street, Calcutta.

☞ Call for DARLINGTON'S PAIN-CURER. Thousands of Testimonials of the marvellous cures by this remedy.

The following is from an influential zemindar, the Vice-Chairman of the Municipality of Burisaul, and one who writes after taking from us 9 bottles of the Infallible Pain-Curer.

MESSRS. DARLINGTON & Co., 49 Dhurrumtollah St, Calcutta.

Dear Sirs,—Please send me two bottles more (large size) of your Infallible Pain-Curer. I am happy to observe that I have witnessed beneficial results from its application. Some of my friends used it, and I also gave to some of my servants, I was pleasingly surprised to see that in every instance it kept true to its name. Yours faithfully.—EDWARD BROWN.

GENTLEMEN,—I enclose two currency notes of ten rupees each and beg you will kindly send me eight bottles more (large size) of your famous "Infallible Pain-Curer" which is undoubtedly worthy of its name. Yours most obediently, Digamber Pershad, English teacher to Baboo Sreedhur Sahi, Zemindar of Manjha, camp Ajodhya in Fyzabad.

Rev. Mother of St. Joseph's Convent, Bandora, Bombay Presy, writes :

Dear Sirs,—We find the Infallible Pain-Curer efficacious, and are glad to know of it as being a useful medicine.

I remain, Yours truly, SISTER THEODORINE.
Superioress Felia de la Croix.

Gentlemen,—I herewith send you the value and shall feel obliged by your sending me by post another bottle (large size) of the Infallible Pain Curer. I find that the medicine is doing me great deal of good.

CHINTAMAN SAKHARAM CHITIUS. Subordinate Judge. Kaira, Guzrath, Bombay Presidency.

Dear Sirs.—Your Infallible Pain-Curer, which was sent to Baboo Rajkisore Chatterjee Toondla has done him good and he writes me to send him another bottle as early as possible. Will you have the goodness to send up without delay another bottle (large size) of the same sort you forwarded last time to him. Yours faithfully,

KISORY MOHUN CHATTERJEE, 4 Fairlie Place, Calcutta.

Gentlemen,—Lately I had taken from you a bottle of your famous "No More Pains" which has almost relieved me of all my pains. I beg to enclose a remittance in postage stamps, and hope you will be pleased to send me another bottle of the same medicine.

Yours faithfully, RAJENDRA NATH CHATTERJEE, Hallisahur Khasbatty, *via* Kanchraparah, Camp Rungown.

Gentlemen,—I enclose Telegraph Stamps, and beg you will kindly send me another bottle of your "Infallible Pain-Curer," which is undoubtedly worthy of its name.

Yours faithfully,
P. THORPE, No. 39 Anderson Street, Black Town, Madras.

NORTHERN BENGAL STATE RAILWAY,

NOTICE.

On and from 1st May 1879, Gunnies will be carried over the Northern Bengal State and Eastern Bengal Railways at the same rate, as unpressed Jute, viz :—

N. B. STATE RAILWAY CHARGE.

For distances over 100 miles ...	10 per cent. below the special rate of ½ a pie per maund per mile.
Ferry charge.....	9 pies per maund.

E. B. RAILWAY CHARGE.

Damookdea to Poradah	4 pies per maund.
Poradah to Calcutta	0-2-8 pies per maund.

By Order,
G. M. DRURY,
Traffic Superintendent.

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